

# Quaternary climate modulation of Pb isotopes in the deep Indian Ocean linked to the Himalayan chemical weathering

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## Abstract

We use reductive sediment leaching to extract lead (Pb) from the authigenic fraction of marine sediments and reconstruct the Pb isotope evolution of the deep central Indian Ocean over the past 250 thousand years at ~3 kyr resolution. Temporal variations define a binary mixing line that is consistent with data from ferromanganese nodules and which records mixing between two well-defined endmembers through time. The unradiogenic endmember appears to represent a widely-distributed Pb source, from mid-ocean ridges or possibly volcanic aerosols, while the radiogenic endmember coincides with the composition of Ganges-Brahmaputra river sediments that are indicative of the Himalayan weathering inputs. Glacial-interglacial Pb isotope variations are striking and can be explained by an enhancement of Himalayan contributions by two to three times during interglacial periods, indicating that climate modulates the supply of dissolved elements to the ocean. While these changes could accurately record variations in the continental chemical weathering flux in response to warmer and wetter conditions during interglacials, the relative proportions of Pb derived from the Ganges and Brahmaputra appear to have been constant through time. This observation may point towards particulate-dissolved interactions in the estuary or pro-delta as a buffer of short timescale variability in the composition (and potentially flux) of the fluvial inputs. In addition, the changes are recorded at 3800 m water depth, and with the lack of deep water formation in the Bay of Bengal, a mechanism to transfer such a signature into the deep ocean could either be reversible scavenging of dissolved Pb inputs and/or boundary exchange on the deep sea fan. Unless the mechanism transferring the Pb isotope signature into the deep ocean was itself highly sensitive to global climate cycles, and with the absence of a precessional signal in our Pb isotope data, we suggest that the Indian climate and its influence on basin-scale chemical weathering were strongly modulated by glacial versus interglacial boundary conditions.

## Key words

Indian Ocean, Ganges-Brahmaputra, Himalayan weathering, boundary exchange, lead isotopes, monsoon

## Highlights

- We reconstruct the Pb isotope evolution of the deep Indian Ocean 0-250 ka BP.
- Control by binary mixing between volcanic and Ganges-Brahmaputra endmembers.
- Reversible scavenging or boundary exchange transfer riverine Pb into deep ocean.
- Quaternary climatic variations modulate dissolved element supply to the oceans.
- Himalayan weathering flux enhanced by approximately 2-3 times during interglacials.

## 1. Introduction

Continental weathering and erosion are fundamental processes that influence the earth's elemental cycles, ocean chemistry, atmospheric composition and climate (e.g. Raymo et al., 1988). However, potential feedbacks between climate and chemical weathering remain poorly understood because of the multiple controls on weathering rates (e.g. White and Blum, 1995; Dupre et al., 2003; Riebe et al., 2004; West et al., 2005). The Himalayan orogen, via the Ganges and Brahmaputra rivers, provides a significant source of both sediments (~1000 million tons/year) and dissolved elements (~100 million tons/year) to the oceans (Galy and France-Lanord, 1999; Milliman and Farnsworth, 2013), making it a good target for investigating climate-weathering links (note that for brevity, we are using 'weathering' to refer to the combined effect of in-situ chemical weathering and the dissolved transport of its products). Changes in Himalayan weathering have previously been invoked to explain changing ocean chemistry and climate during the Cenozoic (e.g. Edmond, 1992; Richter et al., 1992), but we lack direct evidence on its temporal evolution and its response to climate change over both million-year and glacial-interglacial timescales.

Past weathering rates may be obtained by analysing sedimentary archives recovered from the ocean basins. Isotopic tracers with oceanic residence times significantly longer than the mixing time of the oceans (e.g. Sr, Li isotopes) can provide evidence on the globally-integrated weathering signal over a timescale comparable to their residence time (Richter et al., 1992; Misra and Froelich, 2012). However, for any forcing occurring on timescales comparable to or shorter than their residence times, such tracers will show a muted amplitude of change and a phase lag behind that forcing (Richter and Turekian, 1993). In addition, these tracers cannot provide evidence on the geographic distribution of the weathering, making it difficult to link changes in weathering fluxes to specific continental source regions. For this purpose, we require isotopic tracers with oceanic residence times shorter than the mixing time of the oceans (e.g. Nd, Hf, Pb isotopes). Such tracers have a non-uniform geographical distribution that in part reflects the location of the inputs (von Blanckenburg, 1999; Frank, 2002; Goldstein and Hemming, 2003) and should respond rapidly to climatically-controlled changes in weathering inputs.

Since lead (Pb) has a deep water residence time of ~50-200 years (Schaule and Patterson, 1981; Cochran et al., 1990; Henderson and Maier-Reimer, 2002), its isotopic composition is expected to be particularly sensitive to local weathering inputs. Lead isotope measurements on the authigenic fraction of marine sediments have therefore been used to trace regional weathering intensity and/or provenance through time (e.g. von Blanckenburg and Nagler, 2001; Reynolds et al., 2004; Foster and Vance, 2006; Haley et al., 2008; Gutjahr et al., 2009; Crocket et al., 2012). In the Indian Ocean, the Pb isotope signature advected by deep waters from the Southern Ocean is overwhelmed by local sources of Pb in the central Indian Ocean (Vlastelic et al., 2001), indicating the potential of Pb isotopes for tracing the local weathering sources. On million year timescales, Frank and O'Nions (1998) proposed a link between Himalayan weathering changes during the Neogene and the Pb isotopic composition of the deep central Indian Ocean recorded by ferromanganese crust SS663 (Figure 1). However, with the exception of a further study on crust DODO-232D (Frank et al., 2006), this approach remains under-exploited for investigating weathering in the Himalayan system, and in particular has not been applied on shorter timescales.

In this study, we reconstruct the Pb isotopic evolution of the deep Indian Ocean over glacial-interglacial and shorter timescales, aiming to better constrain the Himalayan Pb contribution and assess Himalayan weathering changes in response to glacial-interglacial cycles. More specifically, we (i) test the use of acid-reductive leaching to extract past seawater Pb isotopic composition from ocean sediments; (ii) reconstruct temporal variability

in the Pb isotopic composition of the central Indian Ocean from 0-250 ka; (iii) assess the sources of Pb and the mechanisms for generating that temporal variability; and (iv) consider the implications of our high resolution record for past changes in the Himalayan weathering inputs.

## 2. Regional setting

Our study is based on two marine sediment cores from the deep central Indian Ocean (Figure 1). Core SK129-CR2 (3° N, 76° E, 3800 m water depth) is located on the east side of the Chagos-Laccadive Ridge in the Central Indian Basin (Banakar, 2005) and core ODP 758 (5° N, 90° E, 2925 m water depth) is located on Ninetyeast Ridge (Farrell and Janacek, 1991). Deep waters at both sites are supplied by northward-flowing Circumpolar Deep Water (CDW), which is transported from the Southern Ocean to the Central Indian Basin after crossing the Southeast Indian Ridge, either directly via the South Australia Basin or indirectly via the West Australia Basin and gaps in the Ninetyeast Ridge (Mantyla and Reid, 1995; You, 2000).

Both cores are located towards the distal limit of the Bengal Fan, but neither is directly influenced by the Bengal Fan sedimentation due to their elevated bathymetry, approximately 600 m and 1200 m respectively above the surrounding ocean floor. Therefore, they do not record (in any simple manner) the physical inputs of the Himalayan erosion, which are supplied via the Ganges-Brahmaputra river system to the Bengal Fan. However, because of their more proximal location, they appear well-placed to record an even greater influence of Himalayan weathering on the Pb isotopic composition of Indian Ocean seawater than previously observed in ferromanganese crusts SS663 and DODO-232D (Frank and O'Nions, 1998; Frank et al., 2006) (Figure 1).

## 3. Materials and methods

### 3.1. Sampling and age models

Lead isotopes were measured on bulk sediment acid-reductive leachates at 94 depths between 8-518 cm (5-251 ka BP) in core SK129-CR2 (i.e. an average sampling resolution of ~3 kyr) and at seven depths between 67-487 cm (33-249 ka BP) in core ODP 758. Both cores are dominated by carbonate ooze, with carbonate contents between 35-70 % for SK129-CR2 and 50-70 % for ODP 758 (Farrell and Janacek, 1991). The age model for SK129-CR2 is constrained by radiocarbon dates for 0-33 ka BP, beyond which the benthic foraminiferal *C. wuellerstorfi*  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  record is tuned to the LR04 benthic  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  stack (Lisiecki and Raymo, 2005) at major marine isotope stage (MIS) boundaries (Supplementary Information; Tables S1-S3). For ODP 758, we use the most recently presented age model (Gourlan et al., 2010), which was also based on an orbitally-tuned  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  record.

### 3.2. Sediment leaching

The authigenic component of the sediment was extracted by acid-reductive leaching, as described in Wilson et al. (2013). Briefly, bulk sediment samples of ~5 cm<sup>3</sup> were leached in 30 mL 0.44 M acetic acid solution (buffered to pH 5 by sodium acetate) in 50 mL centrifuge tubes on a rotating wheel. This process was repeated until lack of reaction demonstrated that carbonate had been removed. Samples were then washed at least twice with de-ionised water. The authigenic fraction was recovered by acid-reductive leaching for 1 hour in 30 mL of a pH 2 solution of 0.02 M hydroxylamine hydrochloride (HH) in 4.4 M acetic acid. This HH leachate was centrifuged at 5000 rpm for 10 min and decanted three times in sequence, before chemical separation and mass spectrometry.

We recently demonstrated that the reproducibility of sediment leachate Nd isotope data can be sensitive to the solution/solid ratios used during the leaching procedure (Wilson et al., 2013), due to the removal of authigenic components during the decarbonation step and progressive exchange with volcanic components, if present. To test the sensitivity of Pb isotopes to such a process in this location, we leached different sample sizes at two core depths in SK129-CR2 (328 cm within MIS 6 and 424 cm within MIS 7), and also analysed a subset of nine leachates from MIS 6-7 using smaller solution/solid ratios in order to prevent complete decarbonation before HH leaching.

### 3.3. Chemical purification and mass spectrometry

Full analytical methods are contained in the Supplementary Information and summarised briefly here. The Pb fraction was separated using HBr-HCl chemistry on AG1-X8 anion exchange resin. The Pb isotopic composition was analysed on a Nu Plasma multi-collector inductively-coupled plasma mass spectrometer (MC-ICP-MS) in the Department of Earth Sciences at the University of Cambridge, using thallium (Tl) as an internal standard to correct for mass fractionation (Hirata, 1996; Belshaw et al., 1998; Rehkamper and Mezger, 2000) according to an exponential law. Concentration-matched NIST-SRM-981 Pb standards were measured after approximately every five samples, and a linear correction was applied to all data measured in each analytical session to produce agreement with the accepted composition of NIST-SRM-981 Pb (Galer and Abouchami, 1998; Abouchami et al., 2000).

Our external reproducibility for each analytical session, assessed from the standard deviation ( $2\sigma$ ) of repeat measurements of NIST-SRM-981, is in the range of 30-180 ppm for  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ , 60-240 ppm for  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and 50-250 ppm for  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ . In addition, two internal standards (leachate samples that had been through column chemistry) were analysed in multiple analytical sessions over three years ( $n=14-15$ ) and yield typical long term reproducibility ( $2\sigma$ ) of 140 ppm for  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ , 160 ppm for  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and 190 ppm for  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ . Replicates of 11 samples analysed in two separate sessions give results that are consistent with that external reproducibility (Table S4).

Full procedural blanks for the sediment leaching were  $1.9 \pm 0.7$  ng ( $1\sigma$ ,  $n=9$ ). In comparison to leachate samples that contained 200-1000 ng Pb, the blank contribution represents only 0.2-1.0 % of the total Pb, which in the worst case would generate an error of ~100 ppm for  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and ~400 ppm for  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ . Since such errors are comparable to the external analytical reproducibility, and negligible in comparison to downcore variability, no blank correction has been applied.

## 4. Results and discussion

### 4.1. Reconstructing past seawater Pb isotopic composition

Our reconstruction of past seawater Pb isotopic composition is based on acid-reductive leaching of bulk marine sediments which is used to extract the authigenic phases (Gutjahr et al., 2007; Martin et al., 2010; Wilson et al., 2013). The authigenic fraction is operationally-defined, but considered to be dominated by ferromanganese oxides formed in bottom water or shallow pore waters. This approach has been used in relatively few studies for Pb isotope reconstructions (e.g. Gutjahr et al., 2009; Stumpf et al., 2010; Crocket et al., 2012) and we have therefore investigated some important issues of the method; in particular, (i) the possibility for anthropogenic Pb contamination, and (ii) possible analytical artefacts related to the selectivity of the leaching procedure (Wilson et al., 2013). We summarise here the major outcomes of that assessment (see Supplementary Information) and further discuss the origin of the signal recorded by the authigenic phases.

#### 192 **4.1.1. Anthropogenic contamination**

193 The leachate Pb isotope data from SK129-CR2 record relatively smooth cyclical  
194 changes coinciding with glacial-interglacial cycles (Figure 2) and mostly fall on a binary  
195 mixing line in Pb-Pb spaces (Figure 3). Within the depth range from 60-518 cm, we have  
196 excluded six samples out of 82 with less radiogenic Pb isotopic compositions that are  
197 indicative of anthropogenic contamination with approximately the Broken Hill composition  
198 (Stacey et al., 1969) (Figures S1, S2). In addition, in the top section of the core (8-56 cm), the  
199 data are somewhat noisy (Figure 2) and those samples also deviate from the binary mixing  
200 line in a manner consistent with anthropogenic contamination (Figure S2). Since the  
201 magnitude of contamination required is considerably larger than expected from our procedural  
202 blanks, we suggest that such contamination occurred during coring or core storage. For the  
203 top section (8-56 cm), we have made a correction for each sample by regressing from the  
204 Broken Hill composition onto the best-fit binary mixing lines defined by the remaining 76  
205 samples (Figure S2). That corrected data presents a smoother pattern of change across  
206 Termination I and a similar glacial-interglacial shift to that observed at previous terminations  
207 (Figure 2), suggesting that our correction is robust. Therefore, we show the corrected data  
208 from 8-56 cm in subsequent time series plots (but do not include that data in Pb-Pb plots).

#### 209 **4.1.2. Sediment leaching reproducibility**

210 Given evidence for a potential sample size effect on the Nd isotopic compositions of  
211 sediment leachates (Wilson et al., 2013), we tested the effect on Pb isotopic compositions at  
212 two core depths (328 cm and 424 cm). We see effects from 200 ppm to 2600 ppm on  
213  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  (Figure S1), representing on average ~10 % of the  
214 glacial-interglacial variability in the record. Since these tests represent a worst case scenario,  
215 they imply a generally reliable recovery of the authigenic Pb isotope signal. We also analysed  
216 a subset of nine samples without complete decarbonation before the leaching (Table S4) and  
217 these data are in excellent agreement with the decarbonated leachate data. The results of both  
218 tests are consistent with a mass balance argument that the recovery of authigenic  
219 compositions by sediment leaching should be more robust for Pb than Nd isotopes (Gutjahr et  
220 al., 2007).

221 We also observe good agreement between sediment leachate data from SK129-CR2  
222 and ODP 758 (Figures 2, 3). Since these cores are located in different settings with different  
223 local sediment inputs (Ahmad et al., 2005), the effect of any detrital or volcanic  
224 contamination during leaching would be expected to differ between the cores. Therefore, the  
225 similarity of both temporal changes and absolute values provides independent support for the  
226 reliable recovery of a regionally-controlled authigenic signature.

#### 227 **4.1.3. Seawater origin of the authigenic signal**

228 Direct measurement of the natural Pb isotopic composition of seawater is not possible  
229 due to recent anthropogenic contamination (e.g. Schaule and Patterson, 1981; Alleman et al.,  
230 1999) and we therefore compare our sediment leachate data to measurements on the surface  
231 layers of ferromanganese crusts and nodules from the Indian Ocean (Frank and O'Nions,  
232 1998; Vlastelic et al., 2001; Frank et al., 2006) (Figure 3). These substrates record a bottom  
233 water Pb isotope signature that was acquired over approximately the last 0.2-2 Ma, such that  
234 these measurements should record an integrated glacial-interglacial signal that is appropriate  
235 for comparison to our high resolution late Quaternary data.

236 Vlastelic et al. (2001) showed that Pb isotopes in surface scrapes of ferromanganese  
237 nodules from the central Indian Ocean (north of 20°S; their N-Indian domain; Figure 1)  
238 plotted on a binary mixing line in all Pb-Pb spaces (Figure 3), indicating mixing between two  
239 distinct sources of dissolved Pb. Our leachate data from sediment cores SK129-CR2 and ODP  
240

758 show glacial-interglacial variability (Figure 2) that overlaps with the binary mixing line defined by those ferromanganese nodules (Figure 3), as well as extending to more radiogenic compositions during interglacials. The excellent agreement between the two datasets indicates that our record was influenced by the same two Pb sources as those crusts, which appears to confirm both the reliable recovery of an authigenic signal and its bottom water origin. This evidence also argues against a pore water control, or other in-situ controls, because in those cases such a well-defined binary mixing line would not be expected to be replicated between multiple nodules and sediment cores in different sedimentological environments across a large area of the Indian Ocean (Figure 1).

## **4.2. Sources of Pb to the central Indian Ocean**

The binary mixing line defined by glacial-interglacial variability in SK129-CR2 (Figure 3) may be interpreted in terms of changes in the relative proportions of Pb supplied to seawater from two distinct sources. Potential sources include advection by ocean currents, dissolution of dust or aerosols, and more local riverine or sedimentary sources. Since that temporal variability is in good agreement with the spatial variability defined by ferromanganese crusts in the central Indian Ocean (Vlastelic et al., 2001), the Pb sources to deep water must be well defined in Pb-Pb spaces and temporally rather constant. We therefore also require mechanisms to maintain constant endmember isotopic compositions through time, such as homogenisation by ocean circulation or large river systems.

At a global scale, dust may exert some control on seawater Pb isotopes (Jones et al., 2000; Ling et al., 2005), but dust maps (Mahowald et al., 2006) and modelling studies (Henderson and Maier-Reimer, 2002) suggest that dust input is unlikely to be important for Pb isotopes in the central Indian Ocean. Volcanic aerosols have been suggested as an important source of Pb to the Pacific Ocean (Jones et al., 2000; Klemm et al., 2007), but the strong geographic controls on Indian Ocean Pb isotopic variability appear to rule out such an aerosol source (Vlastelic et al., 2001). In particular, Vlastelic et al. (2001) observed distinct Pb-Pb arrays in different regions of the Indian Ocean (Figure 3), with no endmember common to all arrays, pointing instead towards more local sources to each basin. Importantly, the N-Indian domain does not overlap in Pb isotopic composition with the Antarctic-Indian domain (Figure 3), which is upstream in terms of deep water flow, ruling out the advection of Pb from the Southern Ocean or southern Indian Ocean as a control on Pb isotopes in the central Indian Ocean (von Blanckenburg et al., 1996; Vlastelic et al., 2001). Clearly, Pb is only advected over short path lengths in the deep Indian Ocean, reflecting its short oceanic residence time, and therefore the Pb sources must be more regional in extent.

### **4.2.1. Radiogenic Pb endmember**

Figure 4 compares the SK129-CR2 leachate data to the compositions of suspended sediments from the Ganges, Brahmaputra and Lower Meghna rivers, which represent the major inputs to the Bay of Bengal in the northern Indian Ocean. Those sediments represent the bulk silicate fraction (after acetic acid leaching in order to remove any anthropogenic Pb; see Supplementary Information) of the eroded crust at the catchment scale, presented in Millot et al. (2004) for the Ganges and Brahmaputra and characterised in this study for the Lower Meghna. Although the Lower Meghna sediment should record a mixture of its Ganges and Brahmaputra tributaries, its composition does not plot exactly on the mixing line between these endmembers, which may record the effect of mineralogical sorting and/or estuarine processes in a tide-dominated delta.

The key point here is that the Ganges-Brahmaputra riverine inputs are well placed in Pb-Pb spaces to represent the radiogenic endmember for the binary mixing array defined by the SK129-CR2 leachates and N-Indian nodules. In particular, we suggest that the Lower

Meghna estuarine sediments must play an important role in setting the isotopic composition of Pb inputs to the northern Indian Ocean (Figure 4). We also note that the leachate data from SK129-CR2 extend towards more radiogenic Pb isotopic compositions than observed in the N-Indian nodules (Vlastelic et al., 2001) (Figure 4), with a more radiogenic average value, which is consistent with a Ganges-Brahmaputra source because SK129-CR2 is more proximally located to that source than those nodules (Figure 1).

A comparison to the Pb isotopic composition recently inferred for the Himalayan upper crust (Garcon et al., 2013) also supports that Himalayan Pb, homogenised by the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna river system, represents the dominant radiogenic Pb source to the central Indian Ocean. However, in detail, and particularly for  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ , there is an offset between the compositions of the Himalayan crust and the Lower Meghna sediments (Figure 4), which could possibly reflect analytical differences in the Garcon et al. (2013) approach (such as a lack of acetic acid leaching to remove authigenic phases and/or an anthropogenic signal from the sediment) or uncertainty in their calculation to remove the effect of heavy minerals.

Two potential mechanisms may be important for transporting this Himalayan Pb signal into the deep ocean; either (i) particle scavenging of the dissolved riverine inputs and subsequent release in the deep ocean (Henderson and Maier-Reimer, 2002; Siddall et al., 2008), or (ii) boundary exchange with Himalayan erosion products on the deep sea Bengal Fan (Vlastelic et al., 2001; Lacan and Jeandel, 2005). Given the rapidity of reversible scavenging, the former mechanism implies a quite direct link between the Himalayan weathering inputs and the Pb isotopic composition of the deep ocean and should preserve climatic modulation at all frequencies. In contrast, if boundary exchange is the key mechanism, then the Pb isotopic composition of the Indian Ocean may only be linked indirectly to the Himalayan weathering. In detail, boundary exchange could operate through either particle scavenging of dissolved Pb in the Lower Meghna estuary or surface ocean, forming labile coatings on grains that subsequently release Pb into bottom water from the Bengal Fan, or by the direct dissolution of Himalayan erosion products after their arrival in the deep ocean. In either case, boundary exchange could potentially act as a low pass filter on the riverine signal. In that view, the rather smooth variations on glacial-interglacial timescales (Figure 2) could point towards boundary exchange as the key mechanism. However, recent models (Arsouze et al., 2009) and experiments (Pearce et al., 2013) advocate a rapid boundary exchange process on the timescale of months to decades.

#### **4.2.2. Unradiogenic Pb endmember**

The unradiogenic endmember for the central Indian Ocean appears harder to constrain. Volcanic aerosols could provide a globally well-mixed atmospheric source of unradiogenic Pb and their composition has been inferred indirectly from the leachable component of Chinese loess (Jones et al., 2000; Klemm et al., 2007). Based on their isotopic composition (Figure 5), we cannot rule out such aerosols as a potential unradiogenic endmember for the central Indian Ocean, but we consider them unlikely to be a major contributor because the Indian Ocean Pb-Pb arrays defined by ferromanganese nodules (Vlastelic et al., 2001) do not converge on such a common endmember (Figure 3). Instead, we suggest that a more regional volcanic source supplies unradiogenic Pb to the deep central Indian Ocean. Although there is wide variability between individual basalt samples, the mean composition of mid-ocean ridge basalt (MORB) from the Indian Ocean (Iwamori et al., 2010) is consistent with the required unradiogenic Pb source (Figure 5). The temporal constancy may in this case reflect averaging of a large number of small Pb sources and homogenisation by ocean circulation.

The exact mechanism involved in supplying Pb from the volcanic ridges is uncertain, but it may arise from the interaction between seawater and widely distributed volcanic



seafloor sediments, or could instead be concentrated where deep waters flow through fractures in the ridges along their pathway into the central Indian Ocean. For example, basalts of the Southeast Indian Ridge at 120-125°E, which is the location of the major deep inflow (Mantyla and Reid, 1995), or more locally those of the Central Indian Ridge, have suitable Pb isotopic compositions to represent this endmember (Figure 5). Evidence is emerging that hydrothermal plumes provide a significant source of soluble iron to the deep ocean, including along the Central Indian Ridge (Nishioka et al., 2013), which suggests that they may also be an important Pb source. Such a hydrothermal source of Pb is further supported by the Pb isotope compositions of hydrothermal-influenced ferromanganese nodules collected in proximity to the Indian Ocean ridges (Vlastelic et al., 2001). Those samples fall along a mixing line that is consistent with their derivation primarily from a local MORB source, with a lesser contribution from Pb scavenged from ambient seawater (Figure 5).

#### ***4.2.3. Evidence against incongruent weathering***

The Pb isotopic composition of inputs to the ocean may also be influenced by isotopic fractionation during incongruent weathering (e.g. Erel et al., 1994; Harlavan and Erel, 2002), through the preferential dissolution of highly radiogenic minerals or the preferential mobilisation of radiogenic Pb isotopes from radiation-damaged sites in minerals. Either process could lead to a decoupling between the Pb isotopic composition of the detrital sedimentary inputs and that released to solution, as a function of weathering mechanism or intensity (e.g. von Blanckenburg and Nagler, 2001; van de Flierdt et al., 2002; Reynolds et al., 2004; Foster and Vance, 2006; Gutjahr et al., 2009). However, those observations were predominantly made in glaciated regions of the North Atlantic and a number of observations suggest that incongruent dissolution is not an important effect in the Indian Ocean:

(i) A single binary mixing line defines both the spatial mixing in nodule data from the N-Indian domain of Vlastelic et al. (2001) and the glacial-interglacial mixing in cores SK129-CR2 and ODP 758 (Figure 3), suggesting a constancy of the Pb sources through time. It seems highly unlikely that incongruent weathering, which could potentially control temporal changes, would produce the same trend in Pb-Pb spaces as mixing, which controls the spatial pattern.

(ii) The Himalayan crustal inputs inferred from Lower Meghna riverine sediment compositions are well located in Pb-Pb spaces to define the radiogenic Pb endmember for deep central Indian Ocean seawater (Figure 4) if the weathering is close to congruent.

(iii) Whereas a shift towards more radiogenic Pb isotopes in North Atlantic ferromanganese crusts at the onset of Northern Hemisphere glaciation has been attributed to incongruent weathering (von Blanckenburg and Nagler, 2001), no comparable shift is seen in Indian Ocean crusts at the onset of glaciation over the Himalayas (Frank, 2002).

Such evidence against a control by incongruent weathering supports our description of Indian Ocean seawater Pb isotopic composition in terms of mixing between Himalayan and volcanic endmembers, with approximately unchanging compositions through time that are well characterised by the composition of the measured solid phases.

#### ***4.3. Climate modulation of Pb isotopes through glacial-interglacial cycles***

The benthic oxygen isotope record from SK129-CR2 reflects the combined influences of global sea level, deep sea temperature and hydrography, and therefore provides a good reference frame for the approximate timing of glacial and interglacial periods (Figure 6). In that context, there is a clear climatic modulation of the Pb isotopes at the ~3 kyr resolution of our record. Lead isotopes were more radiogenic during interglacial than glacial periods (Figure 6), indicating that an increased proportion of Pb at these times was derived from Himalayan weathering products via the Ganges-Brahmaputra (Figure 4).

We first consider whether changes in the northward advection of the unradiogenic volcanic Pb signature by bottom currents could have influenced the records at SK129-CR2 and ODP 758. At present, the evidence on glacial versus interglacial flow speeds in the deep Indian Ocean is rather limited, being restricted to the western basins, but points towards flow speeds that were similar or slightly stronger during interglacial than glacial periods (McCave et al., 2005; Thomas et al., 2007). In that case, we would require a major decrease in the volcanic Pb flux released from the ocean floor during interglacials in order to explain the more radiogenic values seen in the record at this time. Instead, we suggest that the volcanic Pb sources were most likely approximately constant through time, and infer that the temporal changes predominantly record changes in the continentally-derived source. In that scenario, climatic modulation could arise from either increased Himalayan weathering inputs or increased boundary exchange with Himalayan sediments during interglacials.

Interglacial periods were characterised by lower sedimentation rates at SK129-CR2 and lower productivity in the region (Rostek et al., 1997; Punyu et al., 2014), both of which may have decreased boundary exchange locally and reduced the Himalayan imprint in the deep ocean. Deep waters were also better oxygenated during interglacials (Pattan and Pearce, 2009), which may also have decreased boundary exchange if this process is enhanced by reducing conditions. We also provided evidence from Nd isotopes for a rather constant boundary exchange process between glacial and interglacial periods in the western Indian Ocean (Wilson et al., 2012). Therefore, even if boundary exchange is important for transferring the Himalayan weathering signature into the deep ocean, it appears hard to explain the SK129-CR2 Pb isotope record by oceanic controls on that boundary exchange process.

Alternatively, if reversible scavenging of the dissolved inputs was the important mechanism transferring the Himalayan signature to our sites, then sediment fluxes into the Bay of Bengal may also have contributed to the observed changes. To the extent that existing records from the Bengal Fan are representative of the whole fan, sedimentation rates appear to have been elevated during interglacials (Goodbred, 2003), which may have enhanced particle scavenging on the fan and reduced the surface ocean residence time of Pb. Therefore, this process also appears to work in the wrong direction to explain the observed changes, because it would have restricted the Pb supply reaching our deep open ocean sites during interglacial periods.

Instead, since the Himalayan basin experienced warmer and wetter conditions during interglacial than glacial periods (Kudrass et al., 2001; Galy et al., 2008; Caley et al., 2011), we suggest that our Pb isotope record is predominantly recording significantly elevated continental weathering fluxes during interglacials. In particular, the coincidence with salinity changes in the Bay of Bengal (Kudrass et al., 2001; Figure 6e) and dust-based aridity reconstructions from the Arabian Sea (Caley et al., 2011; Figure 6c) suggests that precipitation and runoff were important controls on those weathering inputs. Our proposed weathering mechanism is also in agreement with the recent study of Lupker et al. (2013), which provided independent evidence for elevated Himalayan weathering during the Holocene compared to the Last Glacial Maximum based on mobile element depletion and hydration extent in the solid erosion products on the Bengal Fan. According to Lupker et al. (2013), Himalayan weathering predominantly occurs on the Ganges-Brahmaputra floodplains, and such an environment would likely have been highly sensitive to climatic change.

It is worth emphasising one further point, which is that the well-defined binary mixing line in our seawater reconstructions also appears to constrain that the proportions of dissolved Pb derived from the Ganges and Brahmaputra catchments were constant through time (Figure 4). It seems perhaps surprising that the weathering changes described above should have occurred uniformly over such a large spatial scale, although that interpretation has been made

for the physical erosion based on detrital sediment provenance (Lupker et al., 2013). Alternatively, this observation may reflect the mechanism by which the Himalayan Pb signal is transferred to the Indian Ocean. If the Himalayan Pb signature is transferred to seawater through particulate-dissolved interaction from the Lower Meghna estuary to the pro-delta, then sediment mixing and remobilisation could act to average and smooth any short timescale temporal variability in the proportions of Ganges and Brahmaputra inputs.

#### 4.3.1. Quantification of weathering changes

In this section, we use a simple isotope mass balance based on binary mixing between a Himalayan endmember (Lower Meghna sediments) and an Indian Ocean MORB endmember to provide semi-quantitative constraints on the proposed weathering changes (Figure 7). Based on those endmembers, we infer that the proportion of Himalayan Pb at the location of SK129-CR2 increased from ~70 % during glacial periods to 85-90 % during interglacial periods (Figure 7a). With the further assumption of unchanging volcanic Pb fluxes through time, we estimate that the Himalayan Pb fluxes were enhanced by a factor of two or more throughout interglacial compared to glacial periods, and by up to 3.5 times for short periods of the Holocene and MIS 7 (Figure 7b). That simple calculation also assumes that there was no change in deep ocean current strength and no change in the extent of non-conservative behaviour through processes such as particle scavenging.

Given the possibility of temporal changes in the processes affecting Pb transport to our site, we suggest that our evidence may only provide a semi-quantitative estimate of Himalayan weathering fluxes. Nevertheless, it is instructive to compare our estimate to the recent estimate of Lupker et al. (2013) that was based on potassium (K) depletion in detrital sediments from the Bengal Fan. In their simplest scenario, they inferred a three-fold enhancement of Himalayan weathering fluxes between the Last Glacial Maximum and the Holocene, with two-fold to 10-fold enhancements also possible depending on assumptions about detrital sediment fluxes and other uncertainties in their model. Despite the different approaches of the two studies, there is a good agreement between our estimate (Figure 7) and their lower end estimates. In fact, our approach is quite complementary to that of Lupker et al. (2013) because it does not require that detrital sedimentation rates are known and it does not assume or require a steady state. Therefore, agreement between the two studies suggests that in each case the model assumptions were reasonable to provide a first order reconstruction of weathering fluxes. We further note that using the average value of the Lower Meghna for K depletion, rather than the 0-2 ka sediment core interval used by Lupker et al. (2013), would enhance the inferred changes in weathering fluxes from LGM to modern by another ~25 % and, while keeping the Pb-based and K-based estimates within error, could hint at a non steady state for the riverine sediments that is likely driven by anthropogenic forcing.

Any estimate of weathering fluxes based on a single element or isotope system is potentially biased towards mineral phases in which that element is concentrated. The reconstruction based on K depletion was attributed to predominantly biotite weathering (Lupker et al., 2013), but may be broadly indicative of silicate weathering fluxes. For Pb, which is mostly contained in clays, feldspars and micas (Garcon et al., 2014), silicate weathering will also be the main control. Unfortunately, the anthropogenic contribution to dissolved Pb in modern river catchments precludes the determination of the Pb/cation ratio released by weathering as a function of weathering intensity, but the close agreement between our estimates of weathering fluxes from Pb isotopes and those derived from the cations (Lupker et al., 2013) suggests only a small variation in the Pb/cation ratios in the continental dissolved load over the range of observed changes in weathering intensity, which is also supported by the lack of evidence for incongruent Pb release based on isotopic data (Section 4.2.3). One clear outcome from the comparison between the two studies is that Himalayan

weathering changes of at least a factor of two between glacial and interglacial periods are required.

It has previously been suggested that neodymium (Nd) isotopes in this part of the Indian Ocean may also provide evidence of enhanced Himalayan weathering inputs during interglacial periods (Burton and Vance, 2000; Stoll et al., 2007; Gourlan et al., 2010). However, more recent evidence demonstrates that those Nd isotope records correspond to a deep water rather than a surface water signal (Tachikawa et al., 2013). In that case, given the significantly longer oceanic residence time of Nd than Pb (Frank, 2002; Goldstein and Hemming, 2003), those records are subject to significant modulation by the water mass composition advected from the Southern Ocean (Frank and O'Nions, 1998; Frank et al., 2006). In particular, over the last glacial cycle the evolution of the deep Indian Ocean is almost identical to that of the deep South Atlantic core RC11-83 (Piotrowski et al., 2009). Therefore, although there is a broad agreement between our Pb isotope record and those Nd isotope records on a glacial-interglacial timescale, we argue that they are predominantly responding to glacial-interglacial forcing through independent processes. The strength of our Pb isotope approach is that the multiple isotopes provide strong constraints on Pb sources, while the short residence time of Pb (and low deep ocean concentration) make it sensitive to local sources and insensitive to long path length advection, as previously demonstrated by Vlastelic et al. (2001) and discussed earlier.

#### **4.4. Relationship with the Indian monsoon**

In contrast to the glacial-interglacial changes, there is no evidence for precessional (~23 kyr) or sub-orbital controls on our Pb isotope record, which shows a surprisingly smooth pattern of changes (Figure 6). This observation contrasts with continental climate reconstructions from southeast Asian speleothems (Wang et al., 2001; Wang et al., 2008; Cheng et al., 2009), which are dominated by precessional forcing in phase with Northern Hemisphere summer insolation (Figure 6). These speleothem oxygen isotope records were interpreted in terms of variability of the East Asian Summer Monsoon, but may also reflect changes in the Indian Summer Monsoon (Dong et al., 2010; Pausata et al., 2011). Marine reconstructions of the Indian Summer Monsoon (e.g. Caley et al., 2011) also show a precessional signature, although with different phasing (Figure 6). Since the Indian Summer Monsoon is expected to influence precipitation patterns in the region, the lack of precessional variability in the Pb isotope record from SK129-CR2 seems a surprising result.

We first consider whether precessional and shorter timescale variability in weathering inputs could be smoothed before being recorded in our record. One potential smoothing process could involve sediment recycling and reversible exchange in the floodplains, but recent studies have suggested a short timescale for fine-grained sediment transfer within the Ganges basin, on the order of 0.5-1.5 kyr (Galy and Eglinton, 2011; Lupker et al., 2012). Therefore, such processes should not be responsible for any significant smoothing at the ~3 kyr resolution of the SK129-CR2 record. Sea level change could potentially influence the remobilisation of sediments and the dynamics of estuarine and/or delta front particulate-dissolved interactions, influencing the transfer of riverine Pb to seawater. However, the Pb isotope record changes closely in phase with the glacial-interglacial climate transitions inferred from benthic oxygen isotopes, with no apparent lag or smoothing on timescales of a few thousand years (Figure 6), suggesting that such a process should not have been capable of obscuring precessional timescale variability if it had been present.

In the absence of evidence for smoothing processes on longer than millennial timescales, we consider that the lack of a precessional signature is a real feature of our record. With the exception of the Chinese speleothem records, many previous monsoon reconstructions have been restricted to Termination I, where both precessional and glacial-

interglacial forcing were combined, whereas the climate evolution in the Himalayan basin over longer timescales remains rather poorly constrained. In the case of a recent reconstruction of the Indian continental climate from grain size analysis in Arabian Sea core MD04-2861 (Caley et al., 2011) (Figure 6c), significant glacial-interglacial changes in aridity are inferred whereas precessional variability is somewhat muted. If that record is representative of the regional climate, then it appears to support that changes in the Himalayan weathering flux were indeed closely coupled to precipitation and/or temperature change. In other words, the Indian monsoon strength may have been strongly modulated by glacial boundary conditions, such that the Indian continental climate and associated weathering fluxes were dominated by the glacial-interglacial forcing.

#### **4.5. Reassessment of the Himalayan inputs over the last 25 Ma**

Having argued above that continental weathering exerted a major control on the glacial-interglacial Pb isotope variability, and given the similar magnitude of change in Pb isotopes between the early Miocene and present (Figure 8), it is tempting to transfer our weathering interpretation to the longer timescale evolution of this system. Such a perspective could potentially provide evidence on climate-weathering feedbacks over million year timescales, as well as the influence of Himalayan tectonics on weathering.

The original proposal that ferromanganese crusts SS663 and DODO-232D (Figure 1) recorded enhanced Himalayan inputs at ~20-8 Ma (Frank and O'Nions, 1998; Frank et al., 2006) was based on elevated  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratios in that interval (Figure 8). However, the Pb isotope data now available from Himalayan river sediments and our new evidence from SK129-CR2 and ODP 758 together demonstrate that  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratios (or other ratios to  $^{204}\text{Pb}$ ) are more appropriate for tracing the Himalayan inputs (Figure 4). Considering the modern Himalayan sources,  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  actually decreases when  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  increases to accompany increased Himalayan inputs (Figure 8). Therefore, it appears that the Himalayan signature recorded in those crusts started to increase at ~14 Ma and continued to increase, possibly stepwise, towards a maximum at ~2 Ma that has persisted to the present day.

There is therefore a contrast between elevated Himalayan inputs during warm interglacial periods of the Quaternary, and increasing Himalayan inputs from ~14-2 Ma (Figure 8) during a time of predominantly global cooling. If interpreted in terms of weathering changes, the implication is that factors other than climate, such as tectonics and the associated rock uplift and physical denudation (Riebe et al., 2001), may have provided the major controls on Himalayan weathering inputs over these long timescales. Indeed, given dating uncertainties for ferromanganese crusts (Nielsen et al., 2011), the inferred increase in Himalayan weathering since ~14 Ma may have been coincident with enhanced Himalayan exhumation and erosion starting ~15 Ma (Clift et al., 2008). This evidence could possibly indicate a switch between a kinetic (climate) control over short (kyr) timescales and a supply control related to tectonic uplift and denudation over longer (Myr) timescales. However, the inferred decrease in Himalayan erosion rates from ~10-3 Ma (Clift et al., 2008) does not appear to be recorded in those Pb isotope records. The paucity of reliable mass accumulation rates for the entire Bengal Fan could cast some doubts on such inferences on Himalayan erosion rates over this period, or alternatively this observation may point towards multiple controls on this system that are not yet fully understood.

In particular, when considering such long timescales, a number of other factors could influence those ferromanganese crust records in addition to continental weathering fluxes. For example, the shift towards more radiogenic Pb isotopes could record an increasing proximity of the crusts to the Ganges-Brahmaputra source or changes in the radiogenic Pb endmember due to exhumation of the Lesser Himalayas within the Himalayan orogen. Changes in the volcanic Pb source, or in the pattern and/or strength of ocean currents, could also play a role,

but are poorly constrained on these timescales. Therefore, future studies should aim to provide better constraints on the changing locations of seawater archives in relation to sediment sources and on potential changes in sediment source compositions. Records from multiple locations could also help to better constrain the transport processes transferring the Himalayan Pb signature into the deep ocean and the possible role of marine processes in modulating the Pb isotope signal.

## 5. Conclusions

Lead isotope reconstructions from sediment leachates in the deep central Indian Ocean are in good agreement with data from spatially-distributed ferromanganese nodules (Vlastelic et al., 2001) and ferromanganese crust records (Frank and O'Nions, 1998; Frank et al., 2006), confirming the suitability of sediment leaching approaches for reconstructing past bottom water Pb isotopic compositions. Temporal variations during the last 250 ka define a binary mixing line in Pb-Pb spaces, indicating a control by two major Pb sources to the central Indian Ocean with approximately constant endmember compositions through time. The unradiogenic endmember appears to represent a well-mixed source of Pb, likely from volcanic ridge inputs, while the radiogenic endmember corresponds to the composition of river sediments of the Lower Meghna, transferred into the deep ocean by reversible scavenging and/or boundary exchange. This observation supports the hypothesis of Frank and O'Nions (1998) that Pb supplied from the Himalayas influences the deep water Pb isotopic composition in the central Indian Ocean.

Glacial-interglacial variability in Indian Ocean Pb isotopic composition from 0-250 ka BP is striking and can be explained by a two- to three-fold enhancement of Himalayan inputs during interglacials. In the simplest case, that record is potentially recording changes in continental weathering fluxes that were strongly modulated by climate, consistent with evidence from a recent independent approach (Lupker et al., 2013). However, a number of uncertainties remain, including the possible role of particulate-dissolved interactions in buffering short timescale variability in the Pb isotopic composition and/or flux of the fluvial inputs, and the oceanic transport of Pb. In order to fully exploit this approach, and especially to understand the longer timescale evolution of the system, we need to better constrain the mechanisms transferring the Himalayan signature into the deep ocean, as well as spatial and temporal patterns in Pb isotope distribution.

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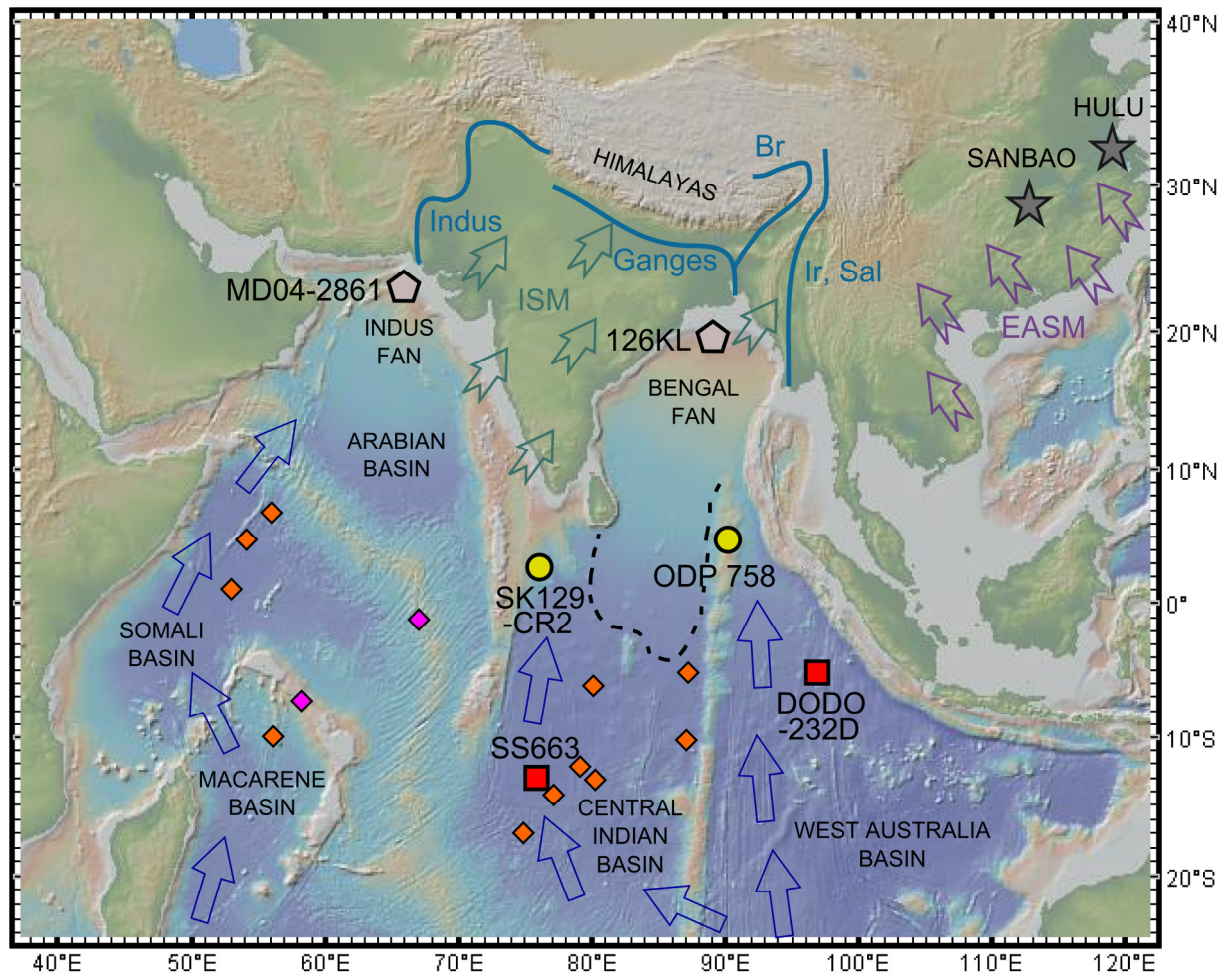
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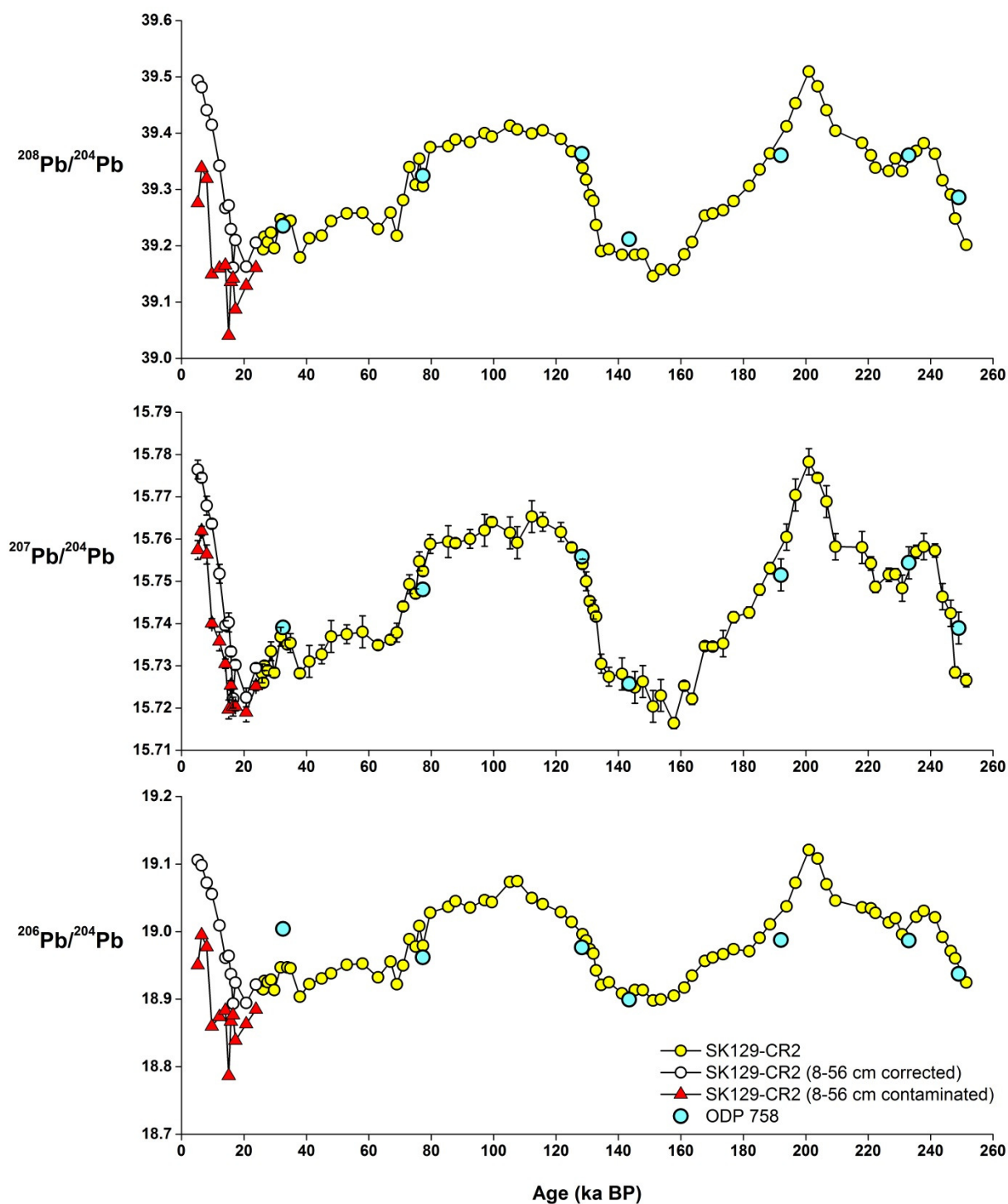
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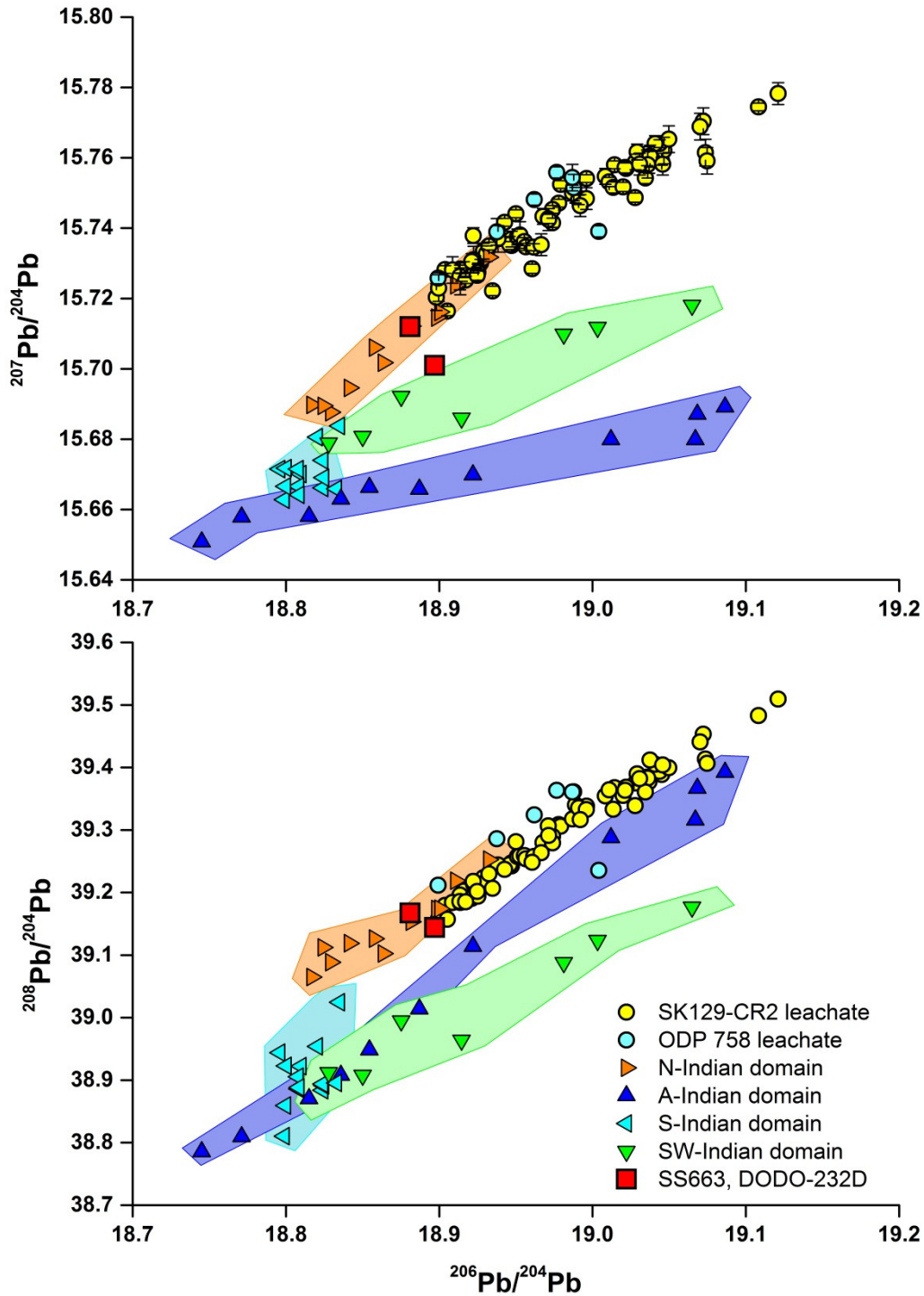


**Figure 1:** Location map for studied cores SK129-CR2 (3°N, 76°E, 3800 m depth) and ODP 758 (5°N, 90°E, 2925 m depth) (yellow circles). Ferromanganese crusts with existing Pb isotope records are SS663 (Frank and O'Nions, 1998) and DODO-232D (Frank et al., 2006) (red squares). Ferromanganese crusts and nodules whose surface layers were analysed for Pb isotopes are also plotted (von Blanckenburg et al., 1996, pink diamonds; Vlastelic et al., 2001, orange diamonds, their N-Indian domain). Blue arrows show schematic representation of the deep circulation (after Mantyla and Reid, 1995; You, 2000) and dotted line shows the extent of the Bengal Fan. Also shown are sediment cores SO93-126KL (Kudrass et al., 2001) and MD04-2861 (Caley et al., 2011) (grey pentagons); Chinese speleothems from Sanbao and Hulu caves (Wang et al., 2001; Wang et al., 2008; Cheng et al., 2009) (grey stars); major rivers (Br=Brahmaputra, Ir=Irrawaddy, Sal=Salween) and schematic representation of Indian Summer Monsoon (ISM) and East Asian Summer Monsoon (EASM) (green and purple arrows).

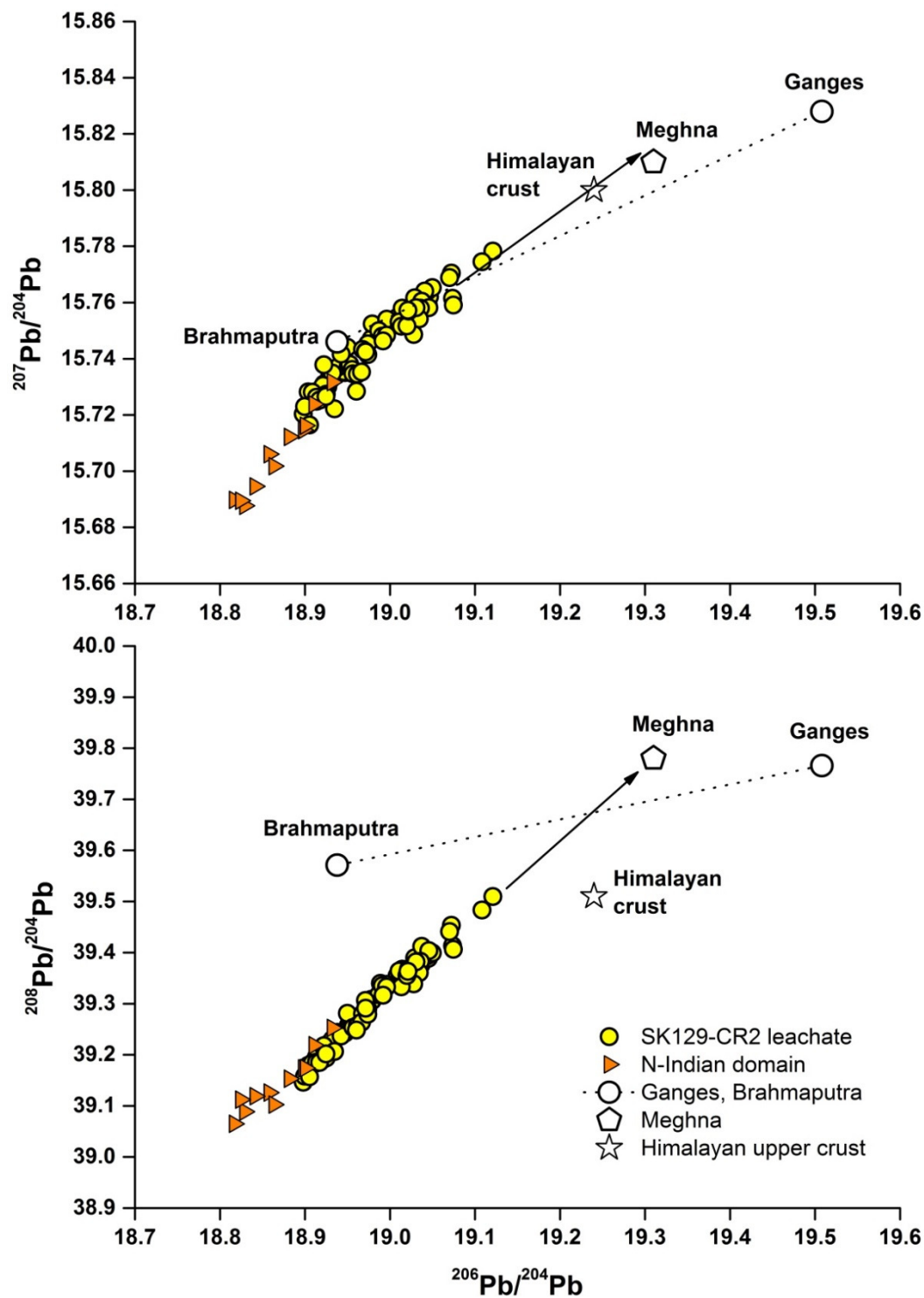


**Figure 2:** Sediment leachate Pb isotope data from SK129-CR2 plotted on an age scale and compared to sediment leachate data from ODP 758. Panels show  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  records. Both measured data and anthropogenic-corrected data are plotted for the 8-56 cm section of SK129-CR2 (see Supplementary Information for full details). Measurement uncertainty is shown with error bars for  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and is comparable to or smaller than symbol sizes for  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ .





**Figure 3:** Sediment leachate Pb isotope data from SK129-CR2 and ODP 758 plotted as Pb-Pb plots ( $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  versus  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  versus  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ) and compared to data from Indian Ocean ferromanganese crusts (Frank and O'Nions, 1998; Vlastelic et al., 2001; Frank et al., 2006). Samples from the N-Indian domain of Vlastelic et al. (2001) are located on Figure 1, while the other domains of that study represent other regions of the Indian Ocean (N, North; A, Antarctic; S, South; SW, Southwest; see Figure 5 of Vlastelic et al., 2001). The SK129-CR2 data are in good agreement with the N-Indian array (Vlastelic et al., 2001), with the surface layers of ferromanganese crusts SS663 and DODO-232D (Frank and O'Nions, 1998; Frank et al., 2006), and with data from two ferromanganese crusts studied by von Blanckenburg et al. (1996) (Figure 1) which are not plotted here due to their significantly larger measurement uncertainties. Measurement uncertainty is shown with error bars for  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and is comparable to or smaller than symbol sizes for  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ .



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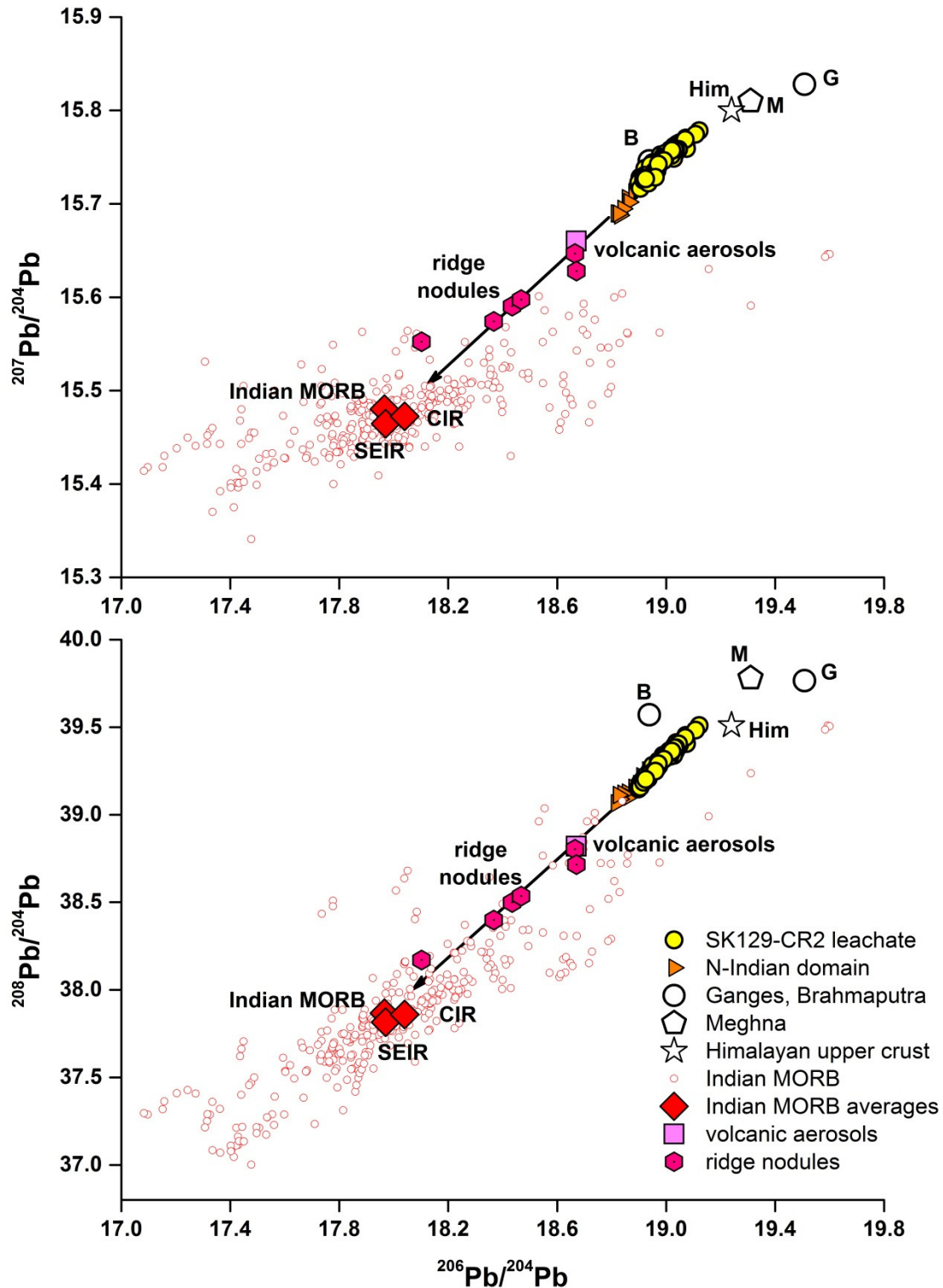
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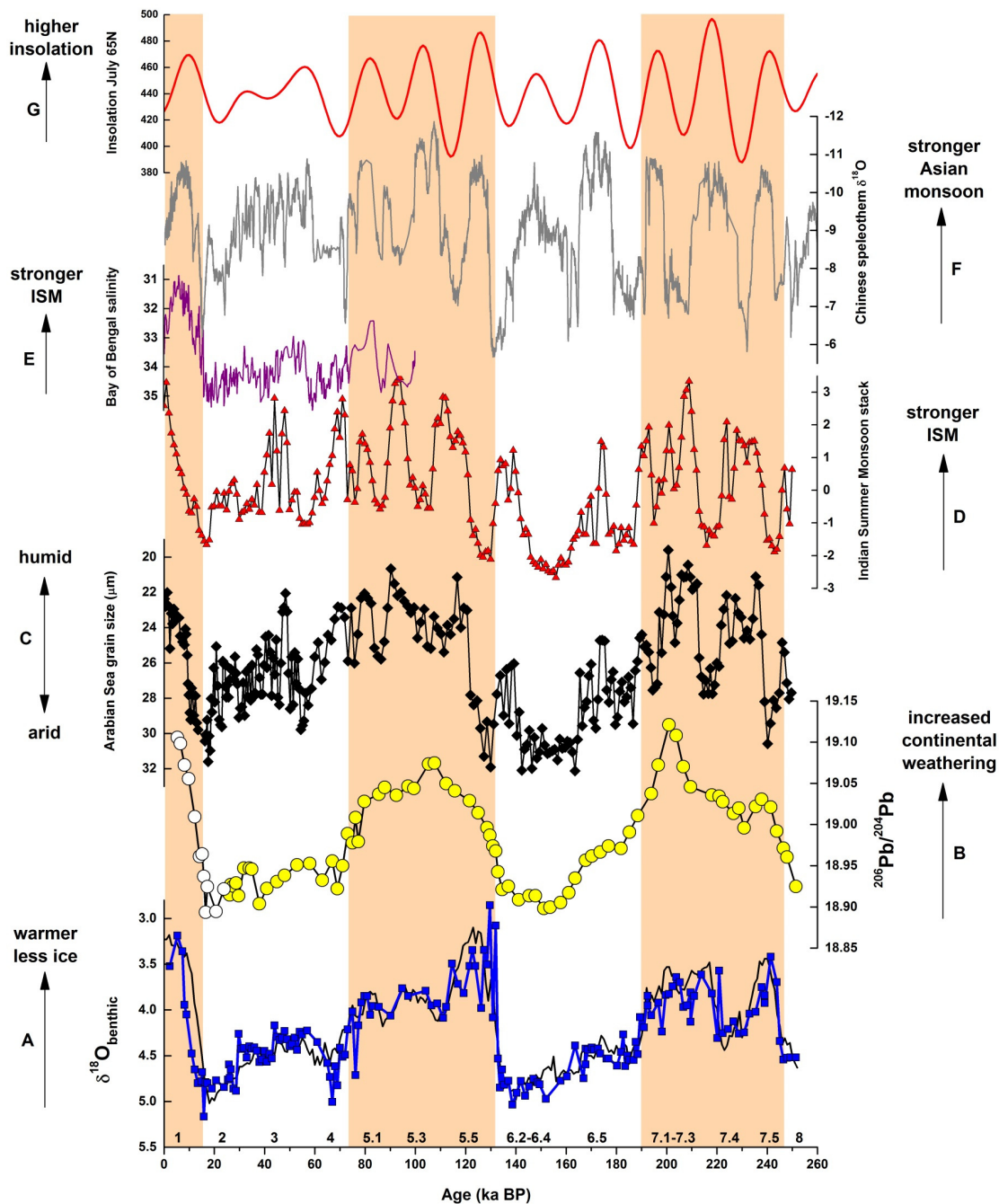
**Figure 4:** Pb-Pb plots assessing the radiogenic Pb endmember for SK129-CR2 and the N-Indian domain. Filled symbols show authigenic data and open symbols show detrital data. Ferromanganese nodule data are from Vlastelic et al. (2001). Ganges and Brahmaputra suspended sediment data are from Millot et al. (2004). Lower Meghna suspended sediment data are from this study. The estimate of Himalayan upper crust composition is from Garcon et al. (2013). Dotted lines indicate the theoretical mixing line between Ganges and Brahmaputra sediment, but note that measured data from the Lower Meghna plot above this line. Arrows indicate the approximate mixing between the SK129-CR2 array and the Lower Meghna composition. Measurement uncertainty is comparable to or smaller than symbol sizes.



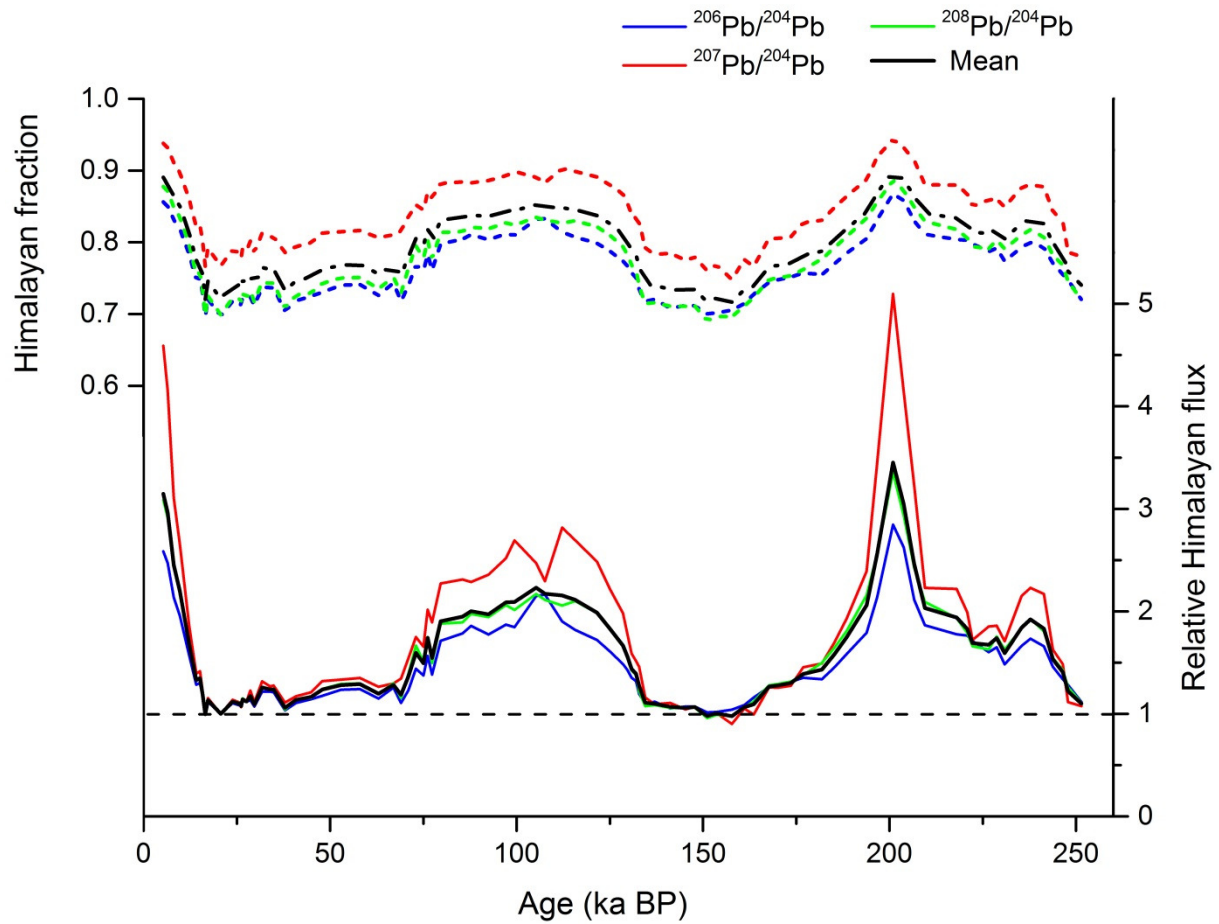


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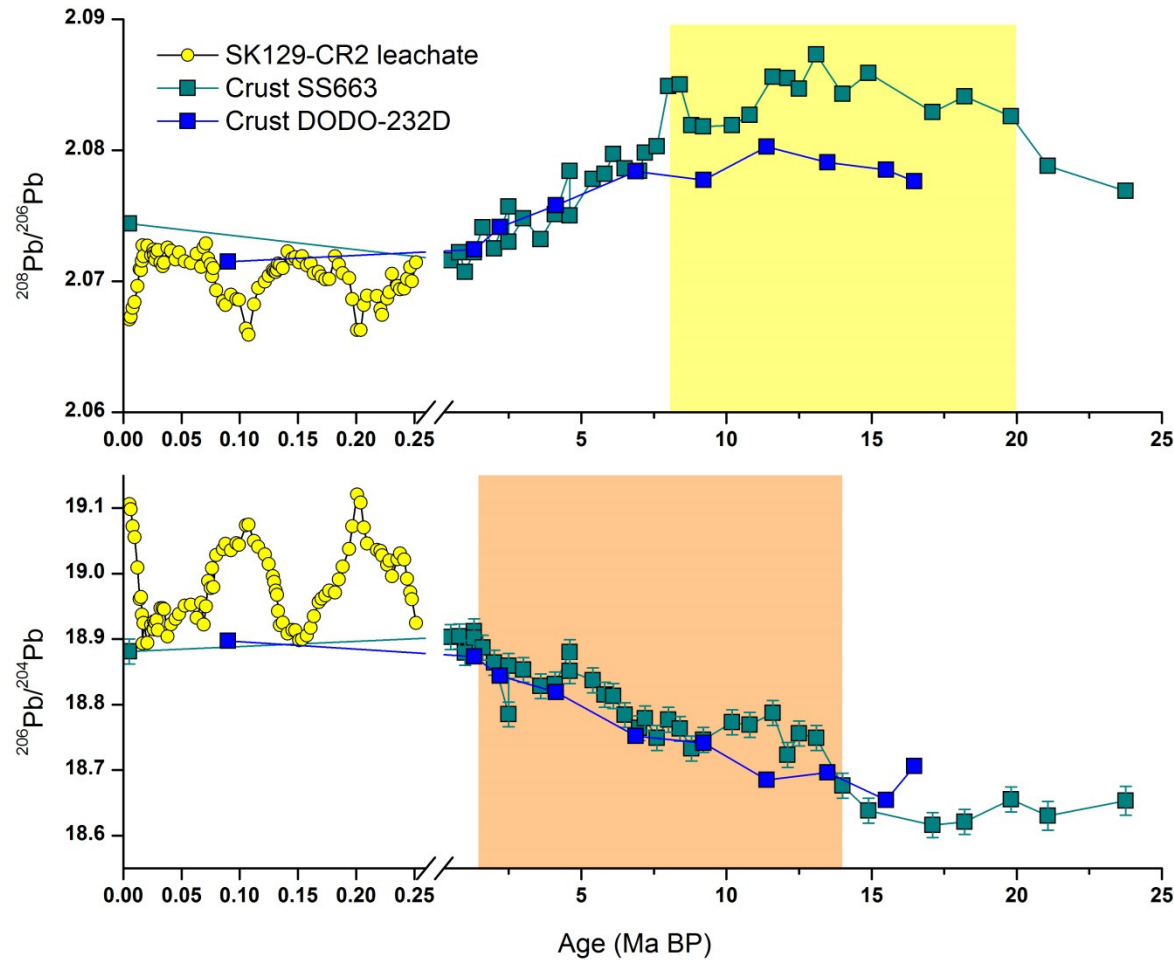
900 **Figure 5:** Pb-Pb plots assessing the unradiogenic Pb endmember for SK129-CR2 and the N-Indian  
901 domain. Indian MORB data (Iwamori et al., 2010) are plotted from 30-130°E, together with their  
902 mean value, and the mean values for the Southeast Indian Ridge 120-125°E (SEIR) and Central Indian  
903 Ridge 10°N-25°S (CIR). Arrows indicate the approximate mixing between those mean values and the  
904 SK129-CR2 array. Also shown are the compositions of ferromanganese nodules from Indian ridges  
905 (Vlastelic et al., 2001) and the composition of a globally well-mixed volcanic aerosol source inferred  
906 from the leachable component of Chinese loess (Jones et al., 2000). Other data references are  
907 described in Figure 4 caption. Measurement uncertainty is comparable to or smaller than symbol sizes.



**Figure 6:** SK129-CR2 Pb isotope record compared to global and regional climate records. (A) SK129-CR2 benthic  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  (blue squares) corrected to equilibrium values (+0.64) and compared to the LR04 benthic  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  stack (black line) (Lisiecki and Raymo, 2005). Numbers along the x axis are MIS numbers. (B) SK129-CR2 leachate  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  (yellow circles for measured data, white circles for anthropogenic-corrected data for Termination I). (C) Reconstruction of continental aridity based on grain size of the silt fraction in Arabian Sea core MD04-2861 (Caley et al., 2011; see Figure 1 for location). (D) Indian Summer Monsoon stack from Arabian Sea core MD04-2861 (Caley et al., 2011). (E) Bay of Bengal salinity reconstructed from planktonic oxygen isotopes in core SO93-126KL (Kudrass et al., 2001; see Figure 1 for location). (F) Chinese speleothem  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  compilation from Hulu and Sanbao Caves (Wang et al., 2001; Wang et al., 2008; Cheng et al., 2009; see Figure 1 for locations), with Hulu cave data adjusted by  $-1.6\text{‰}$  to account for their offset from Sanbao. (G) July insolation at  $65^\circ\text{N}$  (Berger and Loutre, 1991). Note that the records in (C-F) are plotted on their original published age scales. ISM = Indian Summer Monsoon.



**Figure 7:** Constraints on the Himalayan Pb flux to SK129-CR2 based on Pb isotope mass balance calculations. The upper plot (dotted lines) shows the fraction of Himalayan Pb at SK129-CR2, based on mixing between mean Indian MORB ( $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb} = 17.9663$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb} = 15.4801$ ,  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb} = 37.8670$ ; Figure 5) and the Lower Meghna riverine composition (Figure 4). The lower plot (solid lines) converts this fraction into a Himalayan flux relative to the Last Glacial Maximum (~21 ka BP), based on the assumption of a constant volcanic flux. The calculations are carried out separately for each of the three Pb isotope ratios, while the black line is based on the mean Himalayan fraction from the three calculations.



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**Figure 8:** Time series evolution of deep central Indian Ocean Pb isotopic composition reconstructed from sediment leachates in core SK129-CR2 (this study) and ferromanganese crusts SS663 (Frank and O'Nions, 1998) and DODO-232D (Frank et al., 2006) (see Figure 1 for crust locations). Crust ages are based on the original published age models. Note the break in the age axis at 0.25 Ma. The yellow band on the  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  plot highlights the period with elevated  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratios which was originally attributed to increased Himalayan inputs during this period (Frank and O'Nions, 1998). The orange bar on the  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  plot highlights the period during which we now infer increasing Himalayan contributions in those crusts. Error bars are only shown where these are larger than the symbols, with the exception of the  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  data for SS663 for which uncertainties were not reported.

## **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

**“Quaternary climate modulation of Pb isotopes in the deep Indian Ocean linked to the Himalayan chemical weathering” by Wilson D.J., Galy A., Piotrowski A.M., and Banakar V.K.**

### **1. Age model**

The age model for SK129-CR2 is constrained by planktonic radiocarbon dates for 0-33 ka BP (Table S1), beyond which the benthic foraminiferal *C. wuellerstorfi*  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  record (Table S2) is tuned to the LR04 benthic  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  stack (Lisiecki and Raymo, 2005) at major marine isotope stage (MIS) boundaries. Linear interpolation was used between all radiocarbon and benthic  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  tie points. The depth-age tie points and linear sedimentation rates are detailed in Table S3. We note that the LR04 record has an absolute age uncertainty of ~4 kyr over this time period (Lisiecki and Raymo, 2005).

### **2. Chemical purification and mass spectrometry – complete method details**

The Pb fraction was separated using BioRad AG1-X8 anion exchange resin (100-200  $\mu\text{m}$  mesh) in 100  $\mu\text{l}$  Teflon columns in laminar flow hoods using quartz-distilled acids. The columns were washed with 6M HCl and primed with 0.7M HBr before samples were loaded in 0.7M HBr. After washing with 0.7M HBr and 2M HCl, the Pb was eluted in 6M HCl and dried down, before being taken up in 2%  $\text{HNO}_3$  for analysis by mass spectrometry.

The Pb isotopic composition was analysed on a Nu Plasma multi-collector inductively-coupled plasma mass spectrometer (MC-ICP-MS) in the Department of Earth Sciences at the University of Cambridge. Thallium (Tl) was used as an internal standard to correct for mass fractionation (Hirata, 1996; Belshaw et al., 1998) according to an exponential law. The reliability of this approach was optimised by using matrix- and concentration-matched standards and samples (Rehkamper and Mezger, 2000), spiking with a constant Pb/Tl ratio (~2) and mixing Pb and Tl immediately prior to analysis (Kamenov et al., 2004). The mercury (Hg) beam was also monitored at mass 202, allowing for an interference correction for the  $^{204}\text{Hg}$  on  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  using the natural  $^{204}\text{Hg}/^{202}\text{Hg}$  ratio, itself corrected for mass fractionation assessed by Tl and using an exponential law.

Concentration-matched NIST-SRM-981 Pb standards were measured after approximately every five samples, and a linear correction was applied to all data measured in each analytical session in order to produce agreement with the accepted composition of NIST-SRM-981 Pb (Galer and Abouchami, 1998; Abouchami et al., 2000). The standard deviation ( $2\sigma$ ) of repeat measurements of NIST-SRM-981 measured and Tl-corrected as a sample provides our external reproducibility for samples analysed during each analytical

session, giving reproducibility in the range of 30-180 ppm for  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ , 60-240 ppm for  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and 50-250 ppm for  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ . Two internal standards (leachate samples that had been through column chemistry) were also analysed in multiple analytical sessions over three years ( $n=14-15$ ) and yield typical long term reproducibility ( $2\sigma$ ) of 140 ppm for  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ , 160 ppm for  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and 190 ppm for  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ . For 11 samples, replicates were analysed in two separate analytical sessions and give results that are consistent with that external reproducibility (Table S4).

Full procedural blanks for the sediment leaching were  $1.9 \pm 0.7$  ng ( $1\sigma$ ,  $n=9$ ). Blanks analysed for isotopic composition gave average values of  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb} = 18.11 \pm 0.44$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb} = 15.56 \pm 0.07$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb} = 37.77 \pm 0.33$  ( $1\sigma$ ,  $n=7$ ), consistent with a mixture between sample Pb and anthropogenic Pb with an approximately Broken Hill composition (Stacey et al., 1969). Leachate samples typically contained 400-1000 ng Pb, so the blank contribution represents only 0.2-0.5% of the total Pb. Therefore, no blank correction has been applied. In the smallest samples analysed, which contained  $\sim 200$  ng Pb, the blank could contribute up to  $\sim 1\%$  of the Pb and produce an error of  $\sim 100$  ppm for  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $\sim 400$  ppm for  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ . This error is comparable to the external analytical reproducibility, and remains negligible in comparison to downcore variability in SK129-CR2, which is  $\sim 30$  times larger.

### 3. Assessing anthropogenic contamination of sediment leachates

All measured leachate Pb isotope data from SK129-CR2 (Table S4) are plotted against core depth in Figure S1 and as Pb-Pb plots in Figure S2. These data reveal changes through time across two full glacial cycles that mostly fall on a binary mixing line in Pb-Pb space. Within the depth range from 60-518 cm, most samples form a relatively smooth pattern of temporal variability, but six samples out of 82 fall significantly outside of that smooth pattern, in each case towards less radiogenic Pb isotopic compositions (Figure S1). These samples also lie significantly away from the binary mixing line defined by the other samples in  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  v  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  space (Figure S2), with higher  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  for a given  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ . In contrast, any such divergence away from binary mixing is less apparent in  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  v  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  space. Together, these observations appear to indicate anthropogenic contamination by a contaminant with approximately the Broken Hill composition (Stacey et al., 1969) (Figure S2), which has been shown to be the main source of anthropogenic Pb for the 20<sup>th</sup> century (van de Velde et al., 2005).

Whereas such contamination from 60-518 cm appears to be occasional and distributed randomly, in the upper section of the core (8-56 cm) the majority of samples appear to deviate away from the binary mixing line, also in a similar direction (Figure S2). This behaviour produces a somewhat spiky time series (Figure S1) and a smaller magnitude of

deglacial change for Termination I than for the other glacial-interglacial transitions in the record, especially for  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ . These observations are also consistent with anthropogenic contamination. However, the amount of contamination that would be required is considerably larger than can be explained by any of our measured procedural blanks (Section 3.3 of the main text) and there is not such a persistent artifact in the remainder of the leachate record. We therefore suggest that the contamination in the 8-56 cm section of the core likely occurred during coring or core storage and processing, rather than during leaching in the laboratory.

For those samples described above for which we suspect anthropogenic contamination, we have attempted to make a correction by regressing from the Broken Hill composition (Stacey et al., 1969), which is taken to represent the most likely composition for the anthropogenic contaminant, onto the best-fit binary mixing line through the data from the remaining 76 samples (Figure S2). As can be seen in Figure S1, the correction is relatively larger for  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  than for  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ . The corrected data for the 8-56 cm section show a smoother pattern of change across Termination I (Figure S1) and a similar magnitude of glacial-interglacial variability to that observed at previous terminations. For the other six samples suspected to be contaminated, this correction also leads to a significant improvement, since on average the divergence from the temporal patterns of  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  defined by the remainder of the data is reduced by ~80 % (Figure S1). The apparent improvement of the corrected data over the raw data in terms of autocorrelation between adjacent samples further supports our suggestion of anthropogenic contamination.

Since we are uncertain of the source or isotopic composition of the contaminant, those six outlying data points (Figure S1) are excluded from further discussion. For the 8-56 cm section of the record, our correction appears reasonably robust and we include the corrected data in Table S5. Those corrected data from 8-56 cm are plotted in the time series plots, but are not plotted in the Pb-Pb plots because the mixing trend is well defined by the 76 measured data not requiring a correction.

#### **4. Sediment leaching reproducibility**

We tested the effect of sample size during leaching (Wilson et al., 2013) in the case of one glacial sample (328 cm) and one interglacial sample (434 cm) from SK129-CR2 (Table S4). At 328 cm, the smaller sample is less radiogenic by ~ 1000 ppm, 350 ppm and 550 ppm for  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  respectively (Figure S1), which is larger than the measurement uncertainty. The direction of change is consistent with a minor volcanic contamination of the smaller sample, as suggested previously for Nd isotopes (Wilson et al., 2013), but the magnitude is only ~10 % of the magnitude of glacial-interglacial Pb isotope changes. At 434 cm, the smaller sample is instead more radiogenic than the larger sample (Figure S1), which is not the direction expected for volcanic contamination. Since we

suggested that the large sample at 434 cm may have been affected by anthropogenic contamination, it is hard to assess the reproducibility related to sample size in this case. Overall, this sample size test should represent a worst case scenario, and suggests that less than 10 % of the glacial-interglacial variability in the record may be explained by leaching systematics.

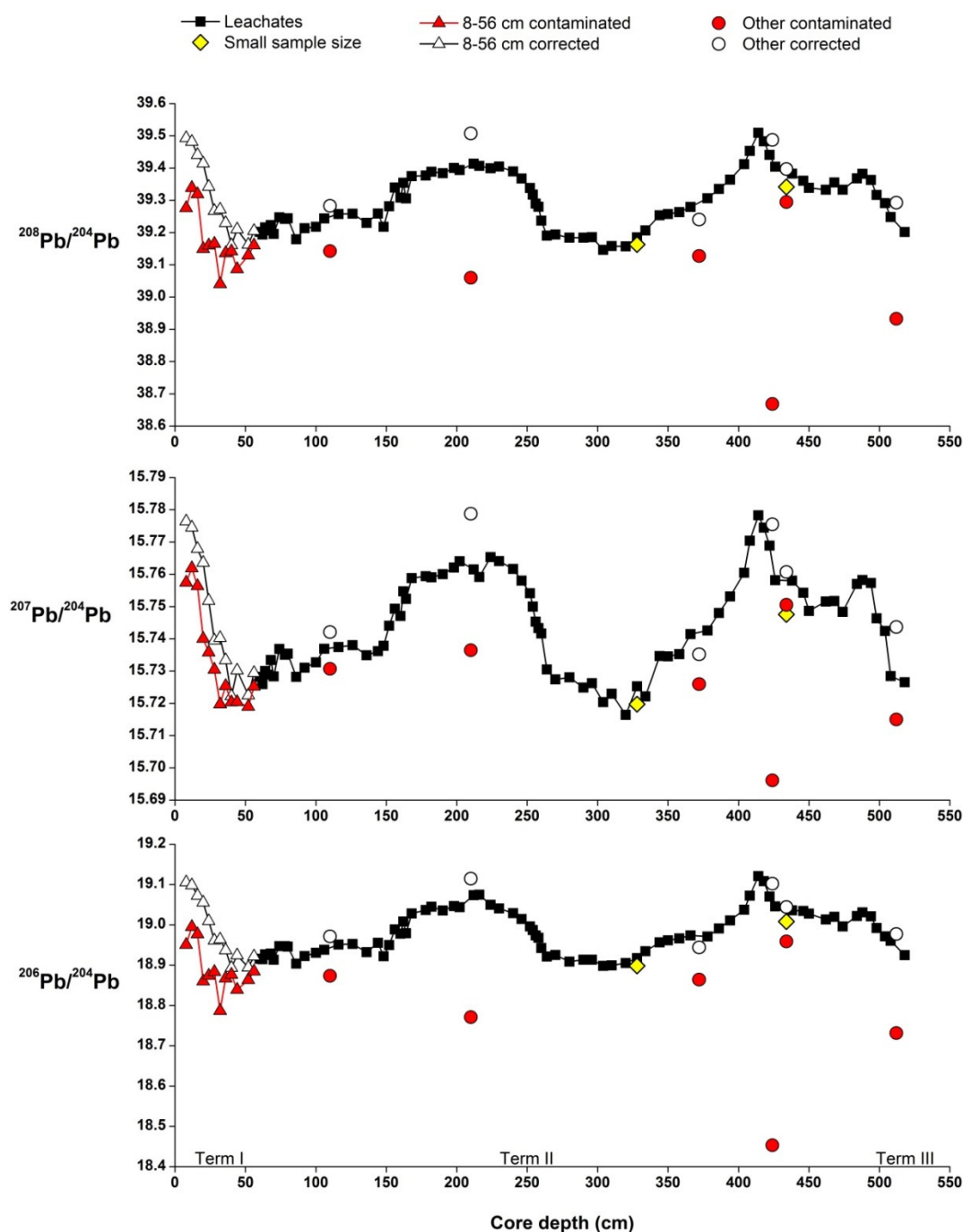
In a second test, we used low solution/solid ratios to prevent complete decarbonation before HH leaching on a subset of 9 samples (Table S4). There is excellent agreement for Pb isotopes between these data and the remainder of the data measured on decarbonated leachates. Given evidence that the use of low solution/solid ratios is a more reliable approach for deep sea authigenic Nd isotope reconstructions (Wilson et al., 2013), this good agreement provides further confidence in our Pb isotope reconstruction.

Overall, the above tests suggest a generally reliable recovery of the authigenic Pb isotope signal by sediment leaching in core SK129-CR2, in agreement with a more general mass balance argument that leaching should be more robust for Pb isotopes than for Nd isotopes (Gutjahr et al., 2007).

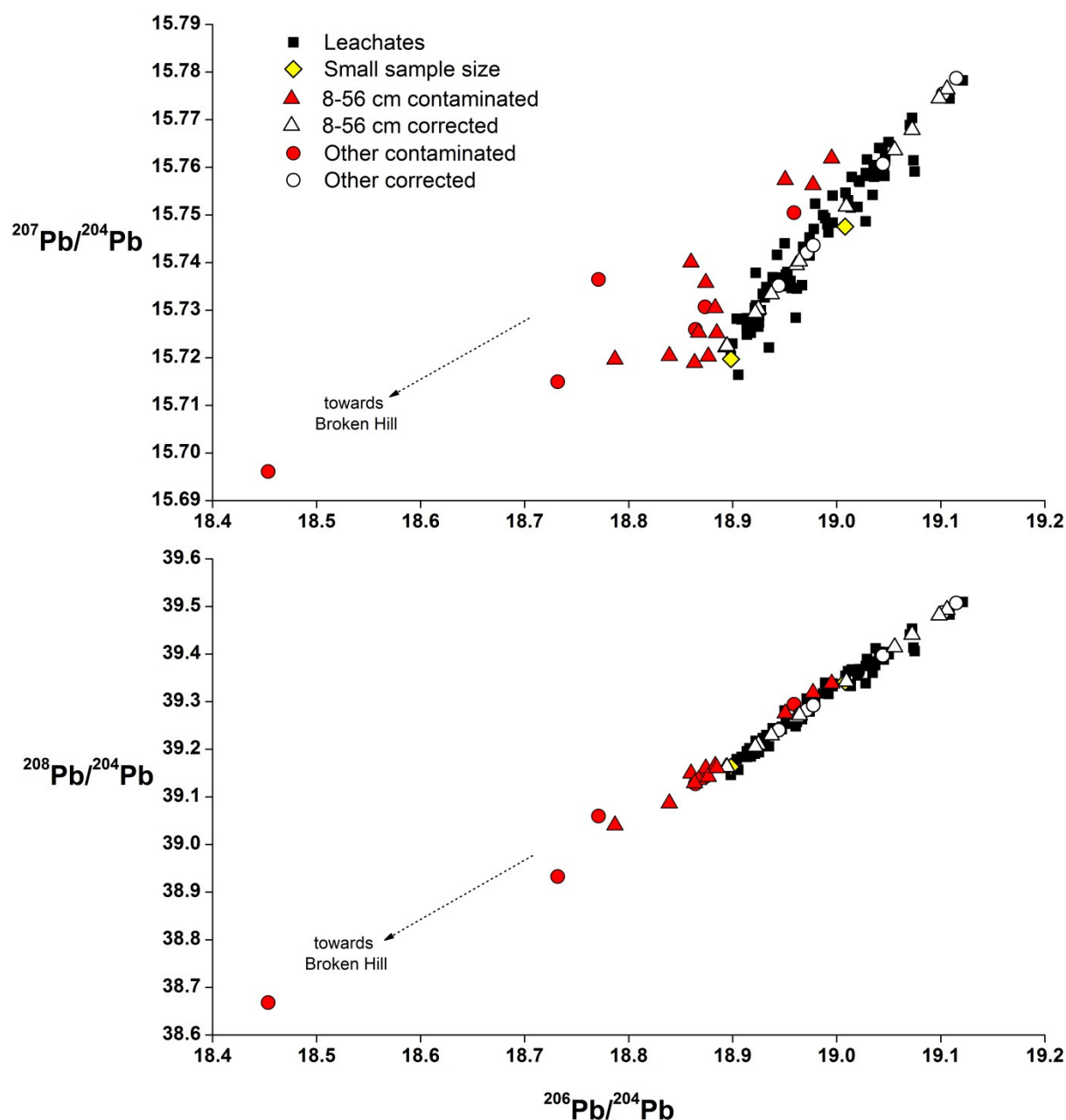
## **5. Detrital sediment Pb isotopic composition of the Lower Meghna**

Sample BGP 21 was collected from the Lower Meghna during the monsoon period and represents the whole silicate fraction of the suspended load. It was leached with 1 M acetic acid to remove authigenic components before dissolution and measurement of its Pb isotopic composition (Galy and France-Lanord, 2001). Its Pb isotopic composition is  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb} = 19.297 \pm 0.005$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb} = 15.796 \pm 0.005$ ,  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb} = 39.72 \pm 0.01$  (all  $2\sigma$  errors).





**Figure S1:** Sediment leachate Pb isotope data from SK129-CR2 plotted against core depth. Panels show  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  records. The leachate data considered reliable are plotted as black squares and a line. Small sample size tests at 328 cm and 434 cm are plotted as yellow diamonds. Anthropogenic contamination is suspected for the top section of the core (8-56 cm) and six other samples: the raw data are shown as red triangles and circles, and the data corrected for anthropogenic contamination (assuming a Broken Hill composition; see Figure S2) are shown as white triangles and circles. The approximate position of Terminations I, II and III within the core are shown along the x axis.



**Figure S2:** Sediment leachate Pb isotope data from SK129-CR2 plotted as Pb-Pb crossplots:  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  versus  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  versus  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ . The leachate data considered reliable are plotted as black squares. Small sample size tests at 328 cm and 434 cm are plotted as yellow diamonds. Anthropogenic contamination is suspected for the top section of the core (0-56 cm) and six other samples: the raw data are shown as red triangles and circles, and the data corrected for anthropogenic contamination (assuming a Broken Hill composition) are shown as white triangles and circles. The arrow indicates the approximate direction of mixing towards an anthropogenic contaminant with the composition of Broken Hill (Stacey et al., 1969), from which the data have been corrected onto the mixing line defined by the reliable data.

**Table S1: Radiocarbon data for SK129-CR2**

Depth (cm)	Sample identification	Species	<sup>14</sup> C age (yrs)	error	<sup>14</sup> C age res. corr. (yrs)	Calendar age (yrs BP)	error
2.5	SUERC-13140	<i>sacculifer</i>	3727	35	3377	3616	43
12	SUERC-13141	<i>sacculifer</i>	6039	35	5689	6462	39
18	SUERC-13142	<i>sacculifer</i>	9170	35	8820	9876	107
22	SUERC-13143	<i>sacculifer</i>	9038	35	8688	9618	50
26	SUERC-13144	<i>sacculifer</i>	11896	38	11546	13411	59
30	SUERC-13147	<i>sacculifer</i>	13048	39	12698	14796	88
36	SUERC-13148	<i>sacculifer</i>	14341	43	13991	16320	126
40	SUERC-13149	<i>sacculifer</i>	14117	42	13767	16026	118
44	SUERC-13150	<i>sacculifer</i>	14909	44	14559	17249	171
52	SUERC-13665	<i>sacculifer</i>	17841	61	17491	20677	102
58	ANU-5020*	<i>menardii</i>	21580	80	21230	25421	129
64	SUERC-13669	<i>sacculifer</i>	22409	94	22059	26536	147
78	SUERC-13671	<i>ruber</i>	28849	189	28499	33888	248

**Notes:**

Radiocarbon analysis of planktonic foraminifera at the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SUERC) AMS Facility (5MV NEC AMS), except for sample at 58 cm (denoted by \*) which was picked by Luke Skinner and run by Stewart Fallon at the Australian National University AMS Lab. SUERC analyses were funded by grant allocation 1198.1006. Samples were hydrolysed to CO<sub>2</sub> using 85% orthophosphoric acid at 25°C. The gas was converted to graphite by Fe/Zn reduction. The errors are reported as 1σ. Conversion applied a uniform 350 y reservoir correction (Butzin et al., 2005; Cao et al., 2007) and was converted to calendar years using the Fairbanks et al. (2005) calibration curve 01.07 (see <http://radiocarbon.LDEO.columbia.edu>). These data were originally presented in Piotrowski et al. (2009), but there was an error in how the reservoir correction was applied which has been corrected here.

**Table S2: Benthic oxygen isotope data from SK129-CR2**

<b>Depth (cm)</b>	<b>Age (ka BP)</b>	<b><math>\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{Cib}}</math> Piotrowski et al. 2009</b>	<b><math>\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{Cib}}</math> Wilson et al. 2015</b>	<b><math>\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{Cib}}</math> combined</b>
0	2.28	2.88		<b>2.88</b>
8	5.26	2.55		<b>2.55</b>
14	7.28	2.72		<b>2.72</b>
16	8.10	3.31		<b>3.31</b>
18	8.93	3.41		<b>3.41</b>
22	10.97	3.84		<b>3.84</b>
24	12.19	4.01		<b>4.01</b>
26	13.41	4.16		<b>4.16</b>
30	14.80	4.14		<b>4.14</b>
32	15.14	4.04		<b>4.04</b>
36	15.83	4.53		<b>4.53</b>
40	16.53	4.15		<b>4.15</b>
44	17.25	4.16		<b>4.16</b>
48	18.96	4.22		<b>4.22</b>
52	20.68	4.13		<b>4.13</b>
56	23.84	4.20		<b>4.20</b>
58	25.42	4.12		<b>4.12</b>
60	25.79	3.96		<b>3.96</b>
62	26.16	4.10		<b>4.10</b>
64	26.54	4.01		<b>4.01</b>
66	27.59	4.22		<b>4.22</b>
68	28.64	4.24		<b>4.24</b>
70	29.69	3.62		<b>3.62</b>
72	30.74	3.79		<b>3.79</b>
74	31.79	3.77		<b>3.77</b>
76	32.84	3.88		<b>3.88</b>
78	33.89	3.76		<b>3.76</b>
80	34.89	3.78		<b>3.78</b>
82	35.89	3.77		<b>3.77</b>
84	36.90	3.81		<b>3.81</b>
86	37.90	3.93		<b>3.93</b>
88	38.90	3.90		<b>3.90</b>
90	39.91	3.81		<b>3.81</b>
92	40.91	3.93		<b>3.93</b>
94	41.91	3.84		<b>3.84</b>
96	42.91	3.89		<b>3.89</b>
98	43.92	3.53		<b>3.53</b>
100	44.92	3.65		<b>3.65</b>
102	45.92	3.69		<b>3.69</b>
104	46.93	3.67		<b>3.67</b>
106	47.93	3.59		<b>3.59</b>
108	48.93	3.68		<b>3.68</b>
110	49.93	3.76		<b>3.76</b>
112	50.94	3.73		<b>3.73</b>
114	51.94	3.66		<b>3.66</b>
116	52.94	3.80		<b>3.80</b>
118	53.95	3.60		<b>3.60</b>
120	54.95	3.63		<b>3.63</b>

124	56.95	3.59		<b>3.59</b>
132	60.97	3.71		<b>3.71</b>
140	64.98	3.94		<b>3.94</b>
142	65.98	4.09		<b>4.09</b>
144	66.98	4.36		<b>4.36</b>
146	67.99	3.98		<b>3.98</b>
148	68.99	4.18		<b>4.18</b>
150	69.99	3.77		<b>3.77</b>
152	70.99	3.87		<b>3.87</b>
154	72.00	3.85		<b>3.85</b>
156	73.00	3.57		<b>3.57</b>
160	75.00	3.38		<b>3.38</b>
162	76.16	4.07		<b>4.07</b>
164	77.33	3.53		<b>3.53</b>
166	78.49	3.28		<b>3.28</b>
168	79.65	3.21		<b>3.21</b>
170	80.82	3.21		<b>3.21</b>
172	81.98	3.41		<b>3.41</b>
174	83.14	3.32		<b>3.32</b>
178	85.47		3.33	<b>3.33</b>
186	90.12	3.42		<b>3.42</b>
194	94.78	3.12		<b>3.12</b>
198	97.10		3.21	<b>3.21</b>
210	104.08	3.15		<b>3.15</b>
214	106.41	3.31		<b>3.31</b>
218	108.73	3.29		<b>3.29</b>
222	111.06	3.45		<b>3.45</b>
224	112.22	3.33		<b>3.33</b>
228	114.55	2.85		<b>2.85</b>
232	116.88	3.08		<b>3.08</b>
236	119.20	3.18		<b>3.18</b>
240	121.53	2.88		<b>2.88</b>
242	122.69	2.71		<b>2.71</b>
244	123.86	2.88		<b>2.88</b>
248	126.18	3.34		<b>3.34</b>
250	127.35	2.70		<b>2.70</b>
252	128.51	2.86		<b>2.86</b>
254	129.67	2.21		<b>2.21</b>
256	130.84	3.44		<b>3.44</b>
258	132.00	2.44		<b>2.44</b>
260	132.83	3.89		<b>3.89</b>
262	133.66	4.21		<b>4.21</b>
264	134.49	4.01		<b>4.01</b>
266	135.32	4.18		<b>4.18</b>
270	136.99	4.13		<b>4.13</b>
274	138.65	4.40		<b>4.40</b>
278	140.31	4.27		<b>4.27</b>
282	141.97	4.14		<b>4.14</b>
286	143.63	4.30		<b>4.30</b>
290	145.30	4.19		<b>4.19</b>
294	146.96	4.11		<b>4.11</b>
298	148.62	4.15		<b>4.15</b>

300	149.45	4.17		<b>4.17</b>
306	151.94	4.33		<b>4.33</b>
320	157.76		4.13	<b>4.13</b>
326	160.25		4.09	<b>4.09</b>
334	163.58		3.75	<b>3.75</b>
342	166.90		4.11	<b>4.11</b>
344	167.73		3.78	<b>3.78</b>
344	167.73		3.95	<b>3.95</b>
346	168.56		3.80	<b>3.80</b>
350	170.23		3.77	<b>3.77</b>
352	171.06		3.79	<b>3.79</b>
356	172.72		3.78	<b>3.78</b>
358	173.55		3.84	<b>3.84</b>
364	176.04		3.89	<b>3.89</b>
366	176.87		3.89	<b>3.89</b>
374	180.20		3.97	<b>3.97</b>
378	181.86		3.82	<b>3.82</b>
380	182.69		3.63	<b>3.63</b>
382	183.52		3.97	<b>3.97</b>
384	184.35		3.86	<b>3.86</b>
386	185.18		3.91	<b>3.91</b>
390	186.85		3.91	<b>3.91</b>
392	187.68		3.71	<b>3.71</b>
394	188.51		3.84	<b>3.84</b>
396	189.34		3.44	<b>3.44</b>
400	191.00		3.55	<b>3.55</b>
402	192.42		3.21	<b>3.21</b>
402	192.42		3.31	<b>3.31</b>
404	193.84		3.42	<b>3.42</b>
408	196.68		3.28	<b>3.28</b>
410	198.11		3.60	<b>3.60</b>
412	199.53		3.20	<b>3.20</b>
414	200.95		3.18	<b>3.18</b>
416	202.37		3.10	<b>3.10</b>
418	203.79		3.00	<b>3.00</b>
420	205.21		3.06	<b>3.06</b>
422	206.63		3.33	<b>3.33</b>
424	208.05		3.31	<b>3.31</b>
426	209.47		3.17	<b>3.17</b>
426	209.47		3.49	<b>3.49</b>
428	210.89		3.21	<b>3.21</b>
432	213.74		2.97	<b>2.97</b>
438	218.00		3.18	<b>3.18</b>
444	220.14		3.67	<b>3.67</b>
446	220.86		2.93	<b>2.93</b>
450	222.29		3.61	<b>3.61</b>
456	224.43		3.57	<b>3.57</b>
462	226.57		3.48	<b>3.48</b>
468	228.71		3.62	<b>3.62</b>
474	230.86		3.61	<b>3.61</b>
480	233.00		3.40	<b>3.40</b>
484	235.40		3.38	<b>3.38</b>

488	237.80		3.11	<b>3.11</b>
490	239.00		3.20	<b>3.20</b>
490	239.00		3.28	<b>3.28</b>
494	241.40		2.78	<b>2.78</b>
498	243.80		3.06	<b>3.06</b>
500	245.00		3.70	<b>3.70</b>
504	246.43		3.90	<b>3.90</b>
508	247.86		3.88	<b>3.88</b>
512	249.29		3.88	<b>3.88</b>
518	251.43		3.88	<b>3.88</b>

**Notes:**

All oxygen isotope data are from *C. wuellerstorfi*, either from Piotrowski et al. (2009) or Wilson et al. (2015). Measurements were made in the Godwin Laboratory on *Cibicidoides wuellerstorfi* (> 212 µm). Foraminifera (typically 2 to 5 specimens) were transferred into sample vials, crushed, and soaked in a solution of 3 % hydrogen peroxide for 30 minutes before being removed. After an acetone ultrasonic bath, the samples were dried at 50 °C overnight. The samples were analysed using a Micromass Multicarb Sample Preparation System attached to a VG SIRA or VG PRISM mass spectrometer. Each run of 30 samples was accompanied by 10 reference carbonates and 2 control samples. The results are reported with reference to the international standard Vienna PeeDee Belemnite (VPDB) and the precision is better than ± 0.08 ‰ for δ<sup>18</sup>O.

**Table S3: Age model tie points for SK129-CR2**

Depth (cm)	Calendar age (ka BP)	Sed rate below (cm/ka)	Method	Notes
2.5	3.616	3.34	<sup>14</sup> C	
12	6.462	2.44	<sup>14</sup> C	
20	9.747	1.64	<sup>14</sup> C	average of two closely spaced <sup>14</sup> C measurements
26	13.411	2.89	<sup>14</sup> C	
30	14.796	5.81	<sup>14</sup> C	
38	16.173	5.58	<sup>14</sup> C	average of two closely spaced <sup>14</sup> C measurements
44	17.249	2.33	<sup>14</sup> C	
52	20.677	1.26	<sup>14</sup> C	
58	25.421	5.38	<sup>14</sup> C	
64	26.536	1.90	<sup>14</sup> C	
78	33.888	1.99	<sup>14</sup> C	
156	73	2.00	MIS 4/5	
160	75	1.72	YTT	first appearance of Youngest Toba Tuff
258	132	2.41	MIS 5/6	
400	191	1.41	MIS 6/7	
438	218	2.80	MIS 7.3/7.4	
480	233	1.67	MIS 7.4/7.5	
500	245	2.80	MIS 7/8	sedimentation rate below MIS 7-8 boundary is unconstrained and based on sedimentation rate in the subsequent glacial period MIS 7.4

**Notes:**

The age model is constrained by radiocarbon dates for 0-34 ka, and thereafter graphical correlation of benthic  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  to the LR04 benthic  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  stack (Lisiecki and Raymo, 2005). The first appearance of the Youngest Toba Tuff (Banakar, 2005; Mark et al., 2014) also provides an independent age estimate that is consistent with the LR04 based age model.



**Table S4: All measured leachate Pb isotope data for SK129-CR2 and ODP 758**

Core	Depth	Age	Size	Number	Notes	Measured data					Anthropogenic	Corrected data			
	cm	ka BP	g	leaches		206/204	2σ	207/204	2σ	208/204	2σ	contamination?	206/204	207/204	208/204
SK129-CR2	8	5.26	2.6	6		18.9505	0.0024	15.7574	0.0022	39.2759	0.0063	possible	19.1058	15.7764	39.4934
SK129-CR2	12	6.46	2.3	5		18.9950	0.0009	15.7619	0.0011	39.3386	0.0034	possible	19.0983	15.7745	39.4816
SK129-CR2	16	8.10	2.3	6		18.9771	0.0024	15.7564	0.0022	39.3190	0.0063	possible	19.0723	15.7679	39.4410
SK129-CR2	20	9.75	2.2	5		18.8598	0.0009	15.7401	0.0011	39.1495	0.0034	possible	19.0556	15.7636	39.4147
SK129-CR2	24	12.19	2.2	6		18.8740	0.0024	15.7358	0.0022	39.1601	0.0063	possible	19.0093	15.7518	39.3424
SK129-CR2	28	14.10	2.8	5		18.8832	0.0009	15.7305	0.0011	39.1654	0.0034	possible	18.9612	15.7395	39.2671
SK129-CR2	32	15.14	3.3	6		18.7867	0.0024	15.7197	0.0022	39.0406	0.0063	possible	18.9641	15.7403	39.2718
SK129-CR2	36	15.83	3.1	5		18.8672	0.0009	15.7254	0.0011	39.1361	0.0034	possible	18.9371	15.7334	39.2295
SK129-CR2	40	16.53	1.4	6		18.8765	0.0024	15.7203	0.0022	39.1422	0.0063	possible	18.8934	15.7222	39.1612
SK129-CR2	44	17.25	3.1	5		18.8390	0.0009	15.7204	0.0011	39.0869	0.0034	possible	18.9247	15.7302	39.2100
SK129-CR2	52	20.68	1.4	6		18.8632	0.0024	15.7190	0.0022	39.1293	0.0063	possible	18.8944	15.7225	39.1628
SK129-CR2	56	23.84	3.1	5		18.8847	0.0009	15.7252	0.0011	39.1608	0.0034	possible	18.9217	15.7294	39.2054
SK129-CR2	60	25.79	2.8	6		18.9160	0.0024	15.7282	0.0022	39.2021	0.0063				
SK129-CR2	62	26.16	2.8	5		18.9146	0.0009	15.7260	0.0011	39.1937	0.0034				
SK129-CR2	64	26.54	3.3	5		18.9270	0.0009	15.7300	0.0011	39.2159	0.0034				
SK129-CR2	66	27.59	3.2	5		18.9253	0.0009	15.7289	0.0011	39.2065	0.0034				
SK129-CR2	68	28.64	3.6	6		18.9289	0.0024	15.7334	0.0022	39.2234	0.0063				
SK129-CR2	70	29.69	2.9	5		18.9136	0.0009	15.7283	0.0011	39.1958	0.0034				
SK129-CR2	74	31.79	4.0	6		18.9472	0.0024	15.7369	0.0022	39.2473	0.0063				
SK129-CR2	78	33.89	2.6	5		18.9472	0.0009	15.7350	0.0011	39.2425	0.0034				
SK129-CR2	80	34.89	3.0	6		18.9458	0.0024	15.7354	0.0022	39.2445	0.0063				
SK129-CR2	86	37.90	2.9	5		18.9038	0.0009	15.7282	0.0011	39.1793	0.0034				
SK129-CR2	92	40.91	2.0	4		18.9224	0.0018	15.7310	0.0038	39.2135	0.0082				
SK129-CR2	100	44.92	3.0	6		18.9308	0.0024	15.7327	0.0022	39.2181	0.0063				
SK129-CR2	106	47.93	2.6	4		18.9383	0.0018	15.7369	0.0038	39.2440	0.0082				
SK129-CR2	110	49.93	2.7	5		18.8734	0.0009	15.7307	0.0011	39.1423	0.0034	contaminated	18.9713	15.7421	39.2830
SK129-CR2	116	52.94	2.4	6		18.9510	0.0024	15.7375	0.0022	39.2574	0.0063				
SK129-CR2	126	57.96	2.6	4		18.9526	0.0018	15.7380	0.0038	39.2585	0.0082				
SK129-CR2	136	62.97	4.6	5		18.9324	0.0009	15.7349	0.0011	39.2299	0.0034				
SK129-CR2	144	66.98	4.7	5		18.9556	0.0009	15.7362	0.0011	39.2590	0.0034				
SK129-CR2	148	68.99	4.8	6		18.9221	0.0024	15.7379	0.0022	39.2177	0.0063				
SK129-CR2	152	70.99	4.5	5		18.9500	0.0009	15.7441	0.0011	39.2813	0.0034				
SK129-CR2	156	73.00	5.1	6		18.9888	0.0024	15.7494	0.0022	39.3399	0.0063				
SK129-CR2	160	75.00	4.1	5		18.9779	0.0009	15.7471	0.0011	39.3086	0.0034				
SK129-CR2	162	76.16	3.0	6		19.0084	0.0024	15.7547	0.0022	39.3546	0.0063				
SK129-CR2	164	77.33	3.2	5		18.9792	0.0009	15.7524	0.0011	39.3061	0.0034				
SK129-CR2	168	79.65	2.9	6		19.0280	0.0024	15.7588	0.0022	39.3750	0.0063				
SK129-CR2	178	85.47	6.6	5		19.0369	0.0018	15.7594	0.0038	39.3770	0.0082				

SK129-CR2	182	87.80	3.3	5		19.0451	0.0009	15.7590	0.0011	39.3887	0.0034				
SK129-CR2	190	92.45	2.7	6		19.0356	0.0024	15.7600	0.0022	39.3844	0.0063				
SK129-CR2	198	97.10	6.0	5		19.0466	0.0018	15.7621	0.0038	39.4002	0.0082				
SK129-CR2	202	99.43	2.5	5		19.0438	0.0009	15.7640	0.0011	39.3938	0.0034				
SK129-CR2	210	104.08	2.7	6		18.7709	0.0024	15.7365	0.0022	39.0596	0.0063	contaminated	19.1149	15.7787	39.5075
SK129-CR2	212	105.24	1.9	5		19.0736	0.0018	15.7615	0.0038	39.4134	0.0082				
SK129-CR2	216	107.57	1.9	5		19.0747	0.0018	15.7591	0.0038	39.4065	0.0082				
SK129-CR2	224	112.22	2.3	5		19.0498	0.0018	15.7653	0.0038	39.3995	0.0082				
SK129-CR2	230	115.71	3.0	6		19.0408	0.0024	15.7640	0.0022	39.4050	0.0063				
SK129-CR2	240	121.53	3.4	6		19.0291	0.0024	15.7616	0.0022	39.3897	0.0063				
SK129-CR2	246	125.02	2.5	5		19.0144	0.0009	15.7580	0.0011	39.3677	0.0034				
SK129-CR2	252	128.51	2.9	5		18.9961	0.0009	15.7541	0.0011	39.3380	0.0034				
SK129-CR2	254	129.67	3.0	6		18.9870	0.0024	15.7500	0.0022	39.3175	0.0063				
SK129-CR2	256	130.84	2.8	5		18.9739	0.0009	15.7453	0.0011	39.2897	0.0034				
SK129-CR2	258	132.00	2.3	6		18.9677	0.0024	15.7433	0.0022	39.2800	0.0063				
SK129-CR2	260	132.83	2.9	5		18.9426	0.0009	15.7417	0.0011	39.2369	0.0034				
SK129-CR2	264	134.49	3.2	6		18.9212	0.0024	15.7305	0.0022	39.1907	0.0063				
SK129-CR2	270	136.99	3.3	6		18.9252	0.0024	15.7274	0.0022	39.1940	0.0063				
SK129-CR2	280	141.14	2.5	4		18.9086	0.0018	15.7281	0.0038	39.1840	0.0082				
SK129-CR2	290	145.30	2.6	4		18.9137	0.0018	15.7249	0.0038	39.1840	0.0082				
SK129-CR2	296	147.79	2.0	4		18.9135	0.0018	15.7263	0.0038	39.1855	0.0082				
SK129-CR2	304	151.11	2.1	4		18.8981	0.0018	15.7204	0.0038	39.1463	0.0082				
SK129-CR2	310	153.61	2.8	4		18.8996	0.0018	15.7230	0.0038	39.1583	0.0082				
SK129-CR2	320	157.76	3.8	9		18.9053	0.0012	15.7164	0.0013	39.1571	0.0040				
SK129-CR2	328	161.08	4.6	10	L	18.9173	0.0010	15.7253	0.0010	39.1849	0.0021				
SK129-CR2	328	161.08	1.9	10	S	18.8983	0.0010	15.7198	0.0010	39.1632	0.0021				
SK129-CR2	334	163.58	3.4	9		18.9348	0.0012	15.7222	0.0013	39.2066	0.0040				
SK129-CR2	344	167.73	3.0	10		18.9565	0.0010	15.7346	0.0010	39.2537	0.0021				
SK129-CR2	350	170.23	2.7	10		18.9617	0.0010	15.7346	0.0010	39.2576	0.0021				
SK129-CR2	358	173.55	3.2	10		18.9665	0.0033	15.7353	0.0031	39.2634	0.0095				
SK129-CR2	358	173.55	3.2	10	rep	18.9717	0.0034	15.7389	0.0025	39.2769	0.0079				
SK129-CR2	366	176.87	2.7	9		18.9739	0.0012	15.7415	0.0013	39.2794	0.0040				
SK129-CR2	372	179.37	6.7	5	*	18.8642	0.0018	15.7260	0.0038	39.1272	0.0082	contaminated	18.9442	15.7352	39.2406
SK129-CR2	378	181.86	6.0	9		18.9711	0.0012	15.7426	0.0013	39.3065	0.0040				
SK129-CR2	386	185.18	4.8	9		18.9909	0.0012	15.7480	0.0013	39.3355	0.0040				
SK129-CR2	394	188.51	4.9	9		19.0108	0.0012	15.7531	0.0013	39.3641	0.0040				
SK129-CR2	404	193.84	3.4	11		19.0374	0.0033	15.7604	0.0031	39.4120	0.0095				
SK129-CR2	404	193.84	3.4	11	rep	19.0361	0.0034	15.7591	0.0025	39.4090	0.0079				
SK129-CR2	408	196.68	7.0	5	*	19.0723	0.0018	15.7704	0.0038	39.4533	0.0082				
SK129-CR2	414	200.95	3.7	11		19.1210	0.0033	15.7783	0.0031	39.5095	0.0095				
SK129-CR2	414	200.95	3.7	11	rep	19.1214	0.0034	15.7779	0.0025	39.5091	0.0079				
SK129-CR2	418	203.79	2.4	5		19.1083	0.0009	15.7745	0.0011	39.4831	0.0034				

SK129-CR2	422	206.63	7.6	5	*	19.0702	0.0018	15.7688	0.0038	39.4409	0.0082				
SK129-CR2	424	208.05	3.6	9		18.4534	0.0012	15.6961	0.0013	38.6685	0.0040	contaminated	19.1021	15.7755	39.4874
SK129-CR2	426	209.47	3.0	11		19.0458	0.0033	15.7582	0.0031	39.4041	0.0095				
SK129-CR2	426	209.47	3.0	11	rep	19.0465	0.0034	15.7598	0.0025	39.4074	0.0079				
SK129-CR2	434	215.16	3.0	11	L	18.9589	0.0033	15.7505	0.0031	39.2945	0.0095	contaminated	19.0443	15.7607	39.3971
SK129-CR2	434	215.16	3.0	11	L, rep	18.9582	0.0034	15.7493	0.0025	39.2851	0.0079	contaminated			
SK129-CR2	434	215.16	1.7	11	S	19.0081	0.0033	15.7476	0.0031	39.3417	0.0095				
SK129-CR2	434	215.16	1.7	11	S, rep	19.0077	0.0034	15.7469	0.0025	39.3396	0.0079				
SK129-CR2	438	218.00	5.3	5	*	19.0359	0.0018	15.7580	0.0038	39.3829	0.0082				
SK129-CR2	446	220.86	6.5	5	*	19.0344	0.0005	15.7542	0.0016	39.3607	0.0043				
SK129-CR2	450	222.29	4.7	9		19.0279	0.0012	15.7487	0.0013	39.3388	0.0040				
SK129-CR2	462	226.57	5.5	5	*	19.0135	0.0005	15.7516	0.0016	39.3330	0.0043				
SK129-CR2	468	228.71	4.2	9		19.0200	0.0012	15.7517	0.0013	39.3553	0.0040				
SK129-CR2	474	230.86	2.5	11		18.9960	0.0033	15.7484	0.0031	39.3327	0.0095				
SK129-CR2	474	230.86	2.5	11	rep	19.0002	0.0034	15.7505	0.0025	39.3407	0.0079				
SK129-CR2	484	235.40	7.9	5	*	19.0219	0.0005	15.7570	0.0016	39.3683	0.0043				
SK129-CR2	488	237.80	2.7	11		19.0307	0.0033	15.7582	0.0031	39.3822	0.0095				
SK129-CR2	488	237.80	2.7	11	rep	19.0295	0.0034	15.7573	0.0025	39.3768	0.0079				
SK129-CR2	494	241.40	3.0	5	*	19.0212	0.0005	15.7573	0.0016	39.3633	0.0043				
SK129-CR2	498	243.80	2.7	11		18.9920	0.0033	15.7464	0.0031	39.3165	0.0095				
SK129-CR2	498	243.80	2.7	11	rep	18.9924	0.0034	15.7461	0.0025	39.3157	0.0079				
SK129-CR2	504	246.43	3.2	11		18.9714	0.0033	15.7424	0.0031	39.2912	0.0095				
SK129-CR2	504	246.43	3.2	11	rep	18.9676	0.0034	15.7365	0.0025	39.2719	0.0079				
SK129-CR2	508	247.86	1.8	9		18.9606	0.0012	15.7284	0.0013	39.2484	0.0040				
SK129-CR2	512	249.29	3.9	11		18.7316	0.0033	15.7150	0.0031	38.9328	0.0095	contaminated	18.9775	15.7437	39.2926
SK129-CR2	512	249.29	3.9	11	rep	18.7307	0.0034	15.7136	0.0025	38.9286	0.0079	contaminated			
SK129-CR2	518	251.43	5.6	5	*	18.9247	0.0005	15.7266	0.0016	39.2017	0.0043				
ODP 758 A1 H1 67-69	67	33	13.2	6		19.0040	0.0011	15.7391	0.0016	39.2354	0.0049				
ODP 758 A1 H2 64.5-67	214.5	77	7.3	6		18.9620	0.0011	15.7481	0.0016	39.3243	0.0049				
ODP 758 A1 H2 123.5-125.5	273.5	128	9.1	6		18.9767	0.0011	15.7558	0.0016	39.3633	0.0049				
ODP 758 A1 H3 13-15.5	313	143	9.3	6		18.8993	0.0005	15.7258	0.0016	39.2116	0.0043				
ODP 758 A1 H3 94-96	394	192	9.4	6		18.9877	0.0018	15.7515	0.0038	39.3609	0.0082				
ODP 758 A1 H4 8-10	458	233	8.6	6		18.9868	0.0018	15.7544	0.0038	39.3608	0.0082				
ODP 758 A1 H4 37-39	487	249	9.2	6		18.9376	0.0018	15.7389	0.0038	39.2859	0.0082				

**Notes:**

**This table contains all measured data and data after correction for anthropogenic contamination where contamination was suspected.**

Core	Identifiers for ODP Leg 121 Site 758 are Hole, Core, Type, Section, Interval
Depth	Depth in cm below sea floor
Size (g)	Wet weights after decarbonation
Number leaches	Number of times leached in ~30 mL acetic acid before HH leaching

L	Large sample size test
S	Small sample size test
rep	Mass spectrometry replicate
*	Leached using low solution/solid ratios to prevent complete decarbonation before HH leaching
possible	Samples where a small anthropogenic contamination is suspected; followed by data corrected as described in Supplementary Information
contaminated	Samples with clear anthropogenic contamination identified; followed by data corrected as described in Supplementary Information
2σ	Uncertainties are based on the standard deviation (2σ) of repeat measurements of concentration-matched NIST-SRM-981 in each analytical session. Long term reproducibility (2σ) assessed from two internal standards (leachate samples) is 140 ppm for <sup>206</sup> Pb/ <sup>204</sup> Pb, 160 ppm for <sup>207</sup> Pb/ <sup>204</sup> Pb and 190 ppm for <sup>208</sup> Pb/ <sup>204</sup> Pb

**Table S5: Leachate Pb isotope data for plotting for SK129-CR2**

Core	Depth cm	Age ka BP	Size g	Notes	206/204	2σ	207/204	2σ	208/204	2σ
SK129-CR2	8	5.26	2.6	corrected	19.1058	0.0024	15.7764	0.0022	39.4934	0.0063
SK129-CR2	12	6.46	2.3	corrected	19.0983	0.0009	15.7745	0.0011	39.4816	0.0034
SK129-CR2	16	8.10	2.3	corrected	19.0723	0.0024	15.7679	0.0022	39.4410	0.0063
SK129-CR2	20	9.75	2.2	corrected	19.0556	0.0009	15.7636	0.0011	39.4147	0.0034
SK129-CR2	24	12.19	2.2	corrected	19.0093	0.0024	15.7518	0.0022	39.3424	0.0063
SK129-CR2	28	14.10	2.8	corrected	18.9612	0.0009	15.7395	0.0011	39.2671	0.0034
SK129-CR2	32	15.14	3.3	corrected	18.9641	0.0024	15.7403	0.0022	39.2718	0.0063
SK129-CR2	36	15.83	3.1	corrected	18.9371	0.0009	15.7334	0.0011	39.2295	0.0034
SK129-CR2	40	16.53	1.4	corrected	18.8934	0.0024	15.7222	0.0022	39.1612	0.0063
SK129-CR2	44	17.25	3.1	corrected	18.9247	0.0009	15.7302	0.0011	39.2100	0.0034
SK129-CR2	52	20.68	1.4	corrected	18.8944	0.0024	15.7225	0.0022	39.1628	0.0063
SK129-CR2	56	23.84	3.1	corrected	18.9217	0.0009	15.7294	0.0011	39.2054	0.0034
SK129-CR2	60	25.79	2.8		18.9160	0.0024	15.7282	0.0022	39.2021	0.0063
SK129-CR2	62	26.16	2.8		18.9146	0.0009	15.7260	0.0011	39.1937	0.0034
SK129-CR2	64	26.54	3.3		18.9270	0.0009	15.7300	0.0011	39.2159	0.0034
SK129-CR2	66	27.59	3.2		18.9253	0.0009	15.7289	0.0011	39.2065	0.0034
SK129-CR2	68	28.64	3.6		18.9289	0.0024	15.7334	0.0022	39.2234	0.0063
SK129-CR2	70	29.69	2.9		18.9136	0.0009	15.7283	0.0011	39.1958	0.0034
SK129-CR2	74	31.79	4.0		18.9472	0.0024	15.7369	0.0022	39.2473	0.0063
SK129-CR2	78	33.89	2.6		18.9472	0.0009	15.7350	0.0011	39.2425	0.0034
SK129-CR2	80	34.89	3.0		18.9458	0.0024	15.7354	0.0022	39.2445	0.0063
SK129-CR2	86	37.90	2.9		18.9038	0.0009	15.7282	0.0011	39.1793	0.0034
SK129-CR2	92	40.91	2.0		18.9224	0.0018	15.7310	0.0038	39.2135	0.0082
SK129-CR2	100	44.92	3.0		18.9308	0.0024	15.7327	0.0022	39.2181	0.0063
SK129-CR2	106	47.93	2.6		18.9383	0.0018	15.7369	0.0038	39.2440	0.0082
SK129-CR2	116	52.94	2.4		18.9510	0.0024	15.7375	0.0022	39.2574	0.0063
SK129-CR2	126	57.96	2.6		18.9526	0.0018	15.7380	0.0038	39.2585	0.0082
SK129-CR2	136	62.97	4.6		18.9324	0.0009	15.7349	0.0011	39.2299	0.0034
SK129-CR2	144	66.98	4.7		18.9556	0.0009	15.7362	0.0011	39.2590	0.0034
SK129-CR2	148	68.99	4.8		18.9221	0.0024	15.7379	0.0022	39.2177	0.0063
SK129-CR2	152	70.99	4.5		18.9500	0.0009	15.7441	0.0011	39.2813	0.0034
SK129-CR2	156	73.00	5.1		18.9888	0.0024	15.7494	0.0022	39.3399	0.0063
SK129-CR2	160	75.00	4.1		18.9779	0.0009	15.7471	0.0011	39.3086	0.0034
SK129-CR2	162	76.16	3.0		19.0084	0.0024	15.7547	0.0022	39.3546	0.0063
SK129-CR2	164	77.33	3.2		18.9792	0.0009	15.7524	0.0011	39.3061	0.0034
SK129-CR2	168	79.65	2.9		19.0280	0.0024	15.7588	0.0022	39.3750	0.0063
SK129-CR2	178	85.47	6.6		19.0369	0.0018	15.7594	0.0038	39.3770	0.0082
SK129-CR2	182	87.80	3.3		19.0451	0.0009	15.7590	0.0011	39.3887	0.0034
SK129-CR2	190	92.45	2.7		19.0356	0.0024	15.7600	0.0022	39.3844	0.0063
SK129-CR2	198	97.10	6.0		19.0466	0.0018	15.7621	0.0038	39.4002	0.0082
SK129-CR2	202	99.43	2.5		19.0438	0.0009	15.7640	0.0011	39.3938	0.0034
SK129-CR2	212	105.24	1.9		19.0736	0.0018	15.7615	0.0038	39.4134	0.0082
SK129-CR2	216	107.57	1.9		19.0747	0.0018	15.7591	0.0038	39.4065	0.0082
SK129-CR2	224	112.22	2.3		19.0498	0.0018	15.7653	0.0038	39.3995	0.0082
SK129-CR2	230	115.71	3.0		19.0408	0.0024	15.7640	0.0022	39.4050	0.0063
SK129-CR2	240	121.53	3.4		19.0291	0.0024	15.7616	0.0022	39.3897	0.0063
SK129-CR2	246	125.02	2.5		19.0144	0.0009	15.7580	0.0011	39.3677	0.0034

SK129-CR2	252	128.51	2.9	18.9961	0.0009	15.7541	0.0011	39.3380	0.0034
SK129-CR2	254	129.67	3.0	18.9870	0.0024	15.7500	0.0022	39.3175	0.0063
SK129-CR2	256	130.84	2.8	18.9739	0.0009	15.7453	0.0011	39.2897	0.0034
SK129-CR2	258	132.00	2.3	18.9677	0.0024	15.7433	0.0022	39.2800	0.0063
SK129-CR2	260	132.83	2.9	18.9426	0.0009	15.7417	0.0011	39.2369	0.0034
SK129-CR2	264	134.49	3.2	18.9212	0.0024	15.7305	0.0022	39.1907	0.0063
SK129-CR2	270	136.99	3.3	18.9252	0.0024	15.7274	0.0022	39.1940	0.0063
SK129-CR2	280	141.14	2.5	18.9086	0.0018	15.7281	0.0038	39.1840	0.0082
SK129-CR2	290	145.30	2.6	18.9137	0.0018	15.7249	0.0038	39.1840	0.0082
SK129-CR2	296	147.79	2.0	18.9135	0.0018	15.7263	0.0038	39.1855	0.0082
SK129-CR2	304	151.11	2.1	18.8981	0.0018	15.7204	0.0038	39.1463	0.0082
SK129-CR2	310	153.61	2.8	18.8996	0.0018	15.7230	0.0038	39.1583	0.0082
SK129-CR2	320	157.76	3.8	18.9053	0.0012	15.7164	0.0013	39.1571	0.0040
SK129-CR2	328	161.08	4.6	18.9173	0.0010	15.7253	0.0010	39.1849	0.0021
SK129-CR2	334	163.58	3.4	18.9348	0.0012	15.7222	0.0013	39.2066	0.0040
SK129-CR2	344	167.73	3.0	18.9565	0.0010	15.7346	0.0010	39.2537	0.0021
SK129-CR2	350	170.23	2.7	18.9617	0.0010	15.7346	0.0010	39.2576	0.0021
SK129-CR2	358	173.55	3.2	18.9665	0.0033	15.7353	0.0031	39.2634	0.0095
SK129-CR2	366	176.87	2.7	18.9739	0.0012	15.7415	0.0013	39.2794	0.0040
SK129-CR2	378	181.86	6.0	18.9711	0.0012	15.7426	0.0013	39.3065	0.0040
SK129-CR2	386	185.18	4.8	18.9909	0.0012	15.7480	0.0013	39.3355	0.0040
SK129-CR2	394	188.51	4.9	19.0108	0.0012	15.7531	0.0013	39.3641	0.0040
SK129-CR2	404	193.84	3.4	19.0374	0.0033	15.7604	0.0031	39.4120	0.0095
SK129-CR2	408	196.68	7.0	19.0723	0.0018	15.7704	0.0038	39.4533	0.0082
SK129-CR2	414	200.95	3.7	19.1210	0.0033	15.7783	0.0031	39.5095	0.0095
SK129-CR2	418	203.79	2.4	19.1083	0.0009	15.7745	0.0011	39.4831	0.0034
SK129-CR2	422	206.63	7.6	19.0702	0.0018	15.7688	0.0038	39.4409	0.0082
SK129-CR2	426	209.47	3.0	19.0458	0.0033	15.7582	0.0031	39.4041	0.0095
SK129-CR2	438	218.00	5.3	19.0359	0.0018	15.7580	0.0038	39.3829	0.0082
SK129-CR2	446	220.86	6.5	19.0344	0.0005	15.7542	0.0016	39.3607	0.0043
SK129-CR2	450	222.29	4.7	19.0279	0.0012	15.7487	0.0013	39.3388	0.0040
SK129-CR2	462	226.57	5.5	19.0135	0.0005	15.7516	0.0016	39.3330	0.0043
SK129-CR2	468	228.71	4.2	19.0200	0.0012	15.7517	0.0013	39.3553	0.0040
SK129-CR2	474	230.86	2.5	18.9960	0.0033	15.7484	0.0031	39.3327	0.0095
SK129-CR2	484	235.40	7.9	19.0219	0.0005	15.7570	0.0016	39.3683	0.0043
SK129-CR2	488	237.80	2.7	19.0307	0.0033	15.7582	0.0031	39.3822	0.0095
SK129-CR2	494	241.40	3.0	19.0212	0.0005	15.7573	0.0016	39.3633	0.0043
SK129-CR2	498	243.80	2.7	18.9920	0.0033	15.7464	0.0031	39.3165	0.0095
SK129-CR2	504	246.43	3.2	18.9714	0.0033	15.7424	0.0031	39.2912	0.0095
SK129-CR2	508	247.86	1.8	18.9606	0.0012	15.7284	0.0013	39.2484	0.0040
SK129-CR2	518	251.43	5.6	18.9247	0.0005	15.7266	0.0016	39.2017	0.0043

**Notes:**

**This table contains the data considered reliable and most appropriate for plotting.**

Replicate data (rep in Table S4) and data from small samples (S in Table S4) have been removed.

Where anthropogenic contamination was identified (contaminated in Table S4) the data have also been removed.

For 8-56 cm the data included here are the data corrected for minor anthropogenic contamination.

Uncertainties are based on the standard deviation ( $2\sigma$ ) of repeat measurements of concentration matched NIST-SRM-981 in each analytical session. Long term reproducibility ( $2\sigma$ ) assessed from two internal leachate samples is 140 ppm for  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ , 160 ppm for  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and 190 ppm for  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$

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